

Company registration number: 01546053

Charity registration number: 282803

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025



Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 13
Independent Examiner's Report	14
Statement of Financial Activities	15
Balance Sheet	16
Notes to the Financial Statements	17 to 30

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Reference and Administrative Details

Chair	B S Fearnley
Trustees	A M Rodgers H Brown M T Shepherd M Macari D T V Kroonenburg R Paice A L Towsey B S Fearnley
Secretary	R Paice
Charity Registration Number	282803
Company Registration Number	01546053
Registered Office	The charity is incorporated in England and Wales. St Boniface House Ashburton Devon TQ13 7JL
Independent Examiner	Westcotts (SW) LLP Plym House 3 Longbridge Road Marsh Mills Plymouth Devon PL6 8LT
Solicitors:	Tozers Solicitors LLP Broadwalk House Southernhay West Exeter Devon EX1 1UA

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Structure, governance and management

Organisational structure

The Society is a company limited by guarantee, not having share capital, and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. [In the event of the Company being wound up, the liability of each member is limited to £10.

Control of the Society and its property and funds are vested in a Committee, whose Members, Chair and Deputy Chair are formally appointed by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Plymouth and who constitute the charity trustees of the Society and directors under company law and are known as the Board of Trustee Directors.

Canon Paul Cummins was the Diocesan Administrator, up until the 29.11.25 when Bishop Nicholas Hudson was installed. Appointments of new CCSP Trustees were approved by the then Diocesan Administrator and from November the Bishop.

Nature of governing document

Details of the structure of the Charity and its Governing Document are given above. The business of the Society is managed by this Board, which may consult with the Bishop/Acting President on the business of the Society whenever it is deemed appropriate, and which must do so on any matter which significantly affects the character and ethos of the Society. The Board meets as often as considered necessary to manage the business of the Society but must meet at least three times a year. The Board may delegate any of its functions to sub-committees, (provided at least two members of each sub-committee are members of the main committee) and regulate them as appropriate and in addition may appoint sub-committees to act purely in an advisory capacity. The Board review and set up sub-committees where needed, an example of this being sub-committees were created for an action plan, topics being CCSP moving forward and reviewing finances, expenses, fundraising and communication with the Bishops Office. Face to face meetings take place, along with Teams meetings where appropriate, as well as some phone conversations.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Recruitment of members takes place from advertisements placed across the Catholic Diocese of Plymouth, as we have an expectation that members will live within the area in which the charity provides its services. The Board members are recruited from all backgrounds, faiths, and experiences, and although some have specialist skills and knowledge to share with the Board it is considered of primary importance that the members have an interest in the care and welfare of children, young people, and families.

Candidates for membership of the Board are invited to attend one or two Board Meetings as observers, to meet existing members and gain an insight into the workings of the Charity and its Board. At that time and on appointment to the Board, they are supplied with a copy of the last Statutory Financial Statements of the Charity, a copy of its Memorandum and Articles and Charity Commission publications explaining their responsibilities as Trustee Directors. New Board Members complete declarations accepting membership of the Charity and of their willingness to act as Trustee Directors of the Charity and are vetted in accordance with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

All new Board members are encouraged to ask questions at Board meetings, and where appropriate to seek additional training or guidance on any aspect of the Society's work. Members of staff and Trustees are available for any questions.

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

Trustee Directors receive no remuneration for their work governing and supporting the charity, although due to the large area covered and to ensure recruitment and retention of Board members, reasonable travel expenses are reimbursed.

Staff

During 2025 the Society employed three paid staff, all of whom worked part time.

- **Pro-active Parenting Lead/Rainbows Director** - providing and facilitating all Pro-active Parenting courses to support parents/carers and liaising with schools. The Pro-active Parenting member of staff is also trained to deliver Rainbows GB bereavement and loss training: to support members of staff in CAST schools to deliver the rainbows programme to children.
- **Fundraiser & Communications Officer** - obtaining all grants and funding for the charity and updating parishioners/Diocese/supporters of the work CCSP carry out through the year.
- **Administrator. Finance and Essential Grants Manager** - Essential grant programme, admin for Trustees/charity and finances.
- **Grants Officer** - Essential Grant Programme, this role is temporary/6-month contract from August 2025 - due to the demand of the EGP and will be reviewed by Trustees accordingly.

Patron

Our sincere thanks go to Professor Shelia the Baroness Hollins who is our Patron, she is regularly updated.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Volunteers

Throughout the Diocese, a few people in parishes volunteer to help the Society by acting as coordinators for the annual appeal collection. Others have given much time and effort to fundraising and publicity. The Society is most grateful to all who have given help in any way.

CCSP plans to continue to actively promote the Parish Volunteer role.

Other relationships

The Society is supported by the Plymouth Diocesan Trust, also a Registered Charity (No. 213227). The Diocesan Trust provides the accommodation occupied by the Society's Registered Office and expects reimbursement for the office consumables such as stationery, telephone, and postage. A small sum is payable for other administrative services provided by the Diocese such as payroll and personnel support. The Society is exceedingly grateful for the support the Diocese offers in this way.

Caritas

Caritas continues to thrive and develop.

It supports and shares the Mission of the Catholic Church, supporting the network of social action charities and parishes within the Plymouth Diocese. We have a strong partnership with Caritas Plymouth. As one of the founder members of the Caritas team we are helping to draw this initiative forward, helping to reach more disadvantaged families' and children. We have worked collaboratively with Caritas in identifying the needs of families in crisis in the Dioceses. Helping those of faith and of none.

Compliance with the governing document and current statutory requirements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the governing document of the Society, current statutory requirements, and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102): Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The Board of Trustee Directors have complied with their duty and with due regard to the guidance on public benefit given by the Charity Commission when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance was relevant.

Investment Powers

Under the Memorandum and Articles, the Charity has the power to deposit or invest funds in any manner (but to invest only after obtaining advice and having regard to the suitability of investments and the need for diversification). The Charity holds a policy on ethical investment and has a statement of investment principle and risk of which our investment advisors are aware.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objectives of the Society are to relieve the charitable needs of children, young persons, and families of those of the Catholic faith, those of all faiths and none.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Objectives, strategies and activities

The stated objective of the Society is to support family life across the Catholic Diocese of Plymouth, which covers all of Cornwall, Devon, and part of Dorset.

Currently this is achieved by the provision of the Pro-active Parenting Project, Rainbows bereavement and loss training, the Good Shepherd Programme for schools, and an Essential Grant Programme.

These are all supported by various fundraising initiatives and donations from schools, parishes, and individuals, as well as from a number of grant giving organisations. Our investment strategy provides reserves to ensure there are sufficient funds available to support these activities for at least the coming financial year in the event of a financial deficit caused by lack of income. This is necessary due to the fluctuating nature of our grant giving, which is dependent on need and can vary greatly month to month.

The Pro-active Parenting Project is designed to support parents and carers. The programmes cover differing age ranges so that parents or carers have a choice of platform to suit their needs. Efforts are made to overcome any barriers to participation, such as literacy or language, and venues are selected to cover a wide-ranging area and with appropriate facilities for all participants.

These programmes are provided free of charge to all parents and carers and although voluntary donations to help defray expenses are welcomed, they are not expected. CCSP also has an SLA agreement with CAST [Plymouth CAST, Multi Academy Trust], in order to be able to offer the Pro-active Parenting Courses within these schools.

As local authority budgets are cut further, the number of non-statutory parenting programmes provided by local authorities continue to fall year on year. The Pro-active Parenting project strives to bridge the gap for parents by providing programmes in their locality.

The Pro-active Parenting member of staff is also trained to deliver Rainbows GB bereavement and loss training to support members of staff in CAST schools to deliver the rainbows programme to children.

The Board of Trustee Directors review the Project to ensure cost efficiency, value for money, along with effectiveness and impact are being met.

Our Good Shepherd programme is promoted in schools to encourage young people to think of the needs of others. Along with the organisation of sponsored events to raise awareness and funds for CCSP.

We also purchased essential items for families through our Essential Grant Programme. Helping to support families of all faiths or none. All grant applications the Society receive are assessed on individual/families/carers need; in order that CCSP can be sure that all donations/funding received are being used with consideration and efficiency.

Applications must be supported by a professional agency supporting the family, an example of this being a school, housing association, or medical professional. Guidance is offered to applicants and referees through documents publicly available on our website or on request. The main criteria for acceptance remains that the item required must directly benefit children within the family, and be of an essential nature, and not available through statutory aid. The Essential Grant programme will continue to be reviewed.

The Board of Trustee Directors have provided all these services and complied with their duty and with due regard to the guidance on public benefit given by the Charity Commission when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance was relevant.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

Another busy and successful year for the charity. Our commitment as a board of directors is to provide good governance, wisdom, and discernment in how we spend the charity's money, for the good of the families and children most in need in our diocese.

Our Fundraiser has worked hard to reach her target set during her annual appraisal, and went beyond expectations, due to some generous legacies, the success of funding applications, fundraising events, crowdfunders, alongside many more parishes contributing their no longer wanted items to our orange box scheme. Without the support of our generous parishes, we would be impoverished. We keep our families, parishes, parishioners, and all generous benefactors in our prayers.

Thanks go to all our employees, our Fundraiser, our Pro-active Parenting Facilitator and registered director for Rainbows GB Bereavement and Loss and our Administrator. We, the trustees, acknowledge that we are very fortunate to have such a dedicated team. Each of our employees is assigned a mentor, who carries out yearly appraisals, with targets set for the coming year. All employees have opportunities for appropriate CPD throughout the year. We see this as vital to update and extend their skills through training opportunities.

Our Essential Grants Programme this year has seen a very high number of applications for help, necessitating extra support in the administration of this area. This need reflects the cost-of-living crisis and many more families and professionals hearing about our work. From August 2025, we have employed an additional part time employee to support the administration of grants.

Requests for support through the Essential Grants Programme come from all over our diocese, and through these we have helped so many families, of faith and no faith. Each application is carefully evaluated by a small panel of trustees, with an answer being given to families and goods delivered where possible within a two-week timeframe. When an application is complex, it goes before the full board. Many more requests for help have come from kinship carers, families with disabilities, those fleeing domestic abuse, families where a parent/carer has lost a job and asylum seekers.

Our Pro-active Parenting worker has found that pastoral support assistants in schools are helping families where there is a need for parenting/caring support, meaning there has been less work for her in this area, this year. This employee was asked to produce a report on the efficacy and value for money of this work. Using data collection, looking at need and from their evaluation, a report has been written and presented to the trustees. The need is there, but parents/carers look upon schools to provide that support as they know the staff.

Twenty-three CAST schools are now registered as Rainbows GB sites and this need is increasing.

Many of the CAST schools fundraise for our charity through the Good Shepherd programme or through their own initiatives. We are very grateful for their continued support. Our Pro-active Parenting support worker has shared ideas with schools on how to raise money for us and there are some imaginative projects in the pipeline.

We give thanks to Canon Paul Cummins, Diocesan Administrator, who has continued to act as our president, in the absence of a new Bishop and we gratefully acknowledge this. Bishop Nicholas Hudson was installed in November, and the charity very much look forward to meeting him and working with him.

Our patron Professor Sheila the Baroness Hollins is updated regularly and informed of our work. We thank her for being our patron.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Use of volunteers

The number of parishes getting more involved with our fundraising initiatives continues to increase as we travel around the Diocese with our annual events including our Annual Mass and our 'Rise to Our Cause' Ascension Day fundraiser.

We continue to promote the role of the Parish Volunteer throughout the Diocese, where we look for one parishioner or even a small number of people in a parish to volunteer to help the charity by acting as coordinators for our annual appeal and crib appeal, as well as other diocesan wide fundraising events. We recruited one new Parish Volunteer last year and spoke to a few others about the possibility of taking on the role in their parish and we have improved communication with the Parish Volunteers we already have and would like to continue to formalise this vital role. The charity is very grateful to all our loyal supporters who continue to help raise much needed funds.

Legacies

During 2025 CCSP received 2 legacies for which we are extremely grateful. This enables us to continue to support families within the Diocese, this also supports the charity's future. We are grateful for those people who left a donation in their will for CCSP, we are thankful for the support we receive.

Summary of achievements in 2025 - Pro-active Parenting/Rainbows.

Continuing professional Development

All diocesan mandatory training was completed and up to date. There has been opportunity to train and widen the skills set to meet the needs of families and people we come into contact with this year including Domestic Abuse Champion Training, meaning that we are trained to support those that have experienced DA and can appropriately signpost as a DA safe organisation.

DASH training was completed, meaning that a professional assessment can be made for appropriate referrals. On the basis of this training CCSP is now part of Standing Tall in the Torbay area to support the children and families in that part of the diocese

Time has been taken to research the provision of pastoral support to children and families in the diocese in comparison to other areas and CCSP has produced a study with recommendations for future planning.

Pro-Active Parenting

We advertise directly with the school, as well as through the CAST portal, and promote through social media, and share in our newsletters and through the diocese. It is becoming increasingly difficult for schools to get parents to attend. Despite offering off school grounds, parents are lacking time to attend, and there is a culture of shame that is hard to break through. It is now common practice for the school to have a pastoral worker full time, and they tend to work and support parents one to one which is preferred by parents, the local authority also offers a version of parenting support sessions that are free for the school and parents to access. As a result, there have been 5 schools that have taken up Pro-Active parenting this year.

Rainbows

We offer bereavement and loss training to staff in our Catholic schools, enabling them to deliver the peer support style Rainbows, Sunbeams and Spectrum programs. We have registered and provided whole school CPD at 7 sites this year as well as facilitator training at these 7 schools. Out of 35 CAST schools in the diocese, we have 23 registered sites.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Good Shepherd

Our Good Shepherd program continues to encourage children in our Catholic schools to think of others. It was decided to not go ahead with the Jubilee of sport event because the CES were already planning a similar event, so this year Good Shepherd was combined with the St Aloysius fundraiser and the fact that it was the 10th anniversary of CAST. CCSP produced a celebration assembly as well as teaching resources for EYFS right through to KS5 as individual lessons to celebrate, ensuring that the themes were in line with the 7 principles and support the gospel values. The activities also raised funds for CCSP. At the last count this was over £3000.

Summary of achievements in 2025 - Fundraising

2025 was another wonderful year for CCSP as we received a record-breaking combined amount of fundraising from all our annual events such as our Annual Appeal, Crib Appeal, Great Big Diocesan Quiz, Orange Box and ink cartridge recycling schemes, our Crowdfunder Prize Draw and our Wills Week. We are very grateful for all the support we continue to receive from all our loyal parishes, Catholic schools, individuals, and annual grant funders throughout the Diocese.

'Giving Hope to All - Putting All Children First' was the theme of our 2025 Annual Appeal, which raised just over £12,000 compared to £21,000 in the previous year and just over £17,000 in both 2023 and 2022. In addition, we received almost £9,500 in donations to our Crib Appeal at the end of 2024/start of 2025 compared to just over £10,000 in the previous year and just over £8,000 the year before.

We are grateful to the Cornwall Community Foundation as we received another £2,000 from their Surviving Winter Fund for the fourth year running and we also received an additional £4,000 from their Crisis Fund. We were also successful in receiving another £10,000 from the Day for Life Fund for the second year running and £2,500 from the Ladies Aid Society in Plymouth. The amount received from our regular annual grant funders rose considerably last year as we received almost £13,000 compared to just over £10,000 in the previous year.

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor in Dorset from which we received £24,000 from one small donation, another record was set with our Orange Box recycling scheme, where supporters donate their unwanted items such as stamps, jewellery, silver etc which is subsequently turned into cash. Over £35,000 was raised in 2025 compared to the record set the previous year of almost £6,000 and just over £5,500 in 2023 and £3,500 in 2022. Our Orange Box recycling scheme is gaining momentum and more parishes, and individual donors are donating their unwanted trinkets, which we are extremely grateful to receive. Following the relaunch of our ink cartridge recycling scheme in 2024 where we raised £532.50 compared to £206 in 2023, in 2025 we raised almost £400. We will continue to promote these two recycling initiatives as not only do they raise funds for the charity, but we are also helping to reduce landfill.

Nine parishes took part in our 2025 Great Big Diocesan Quiz which raised almost £1,400 compared to just over £1,500 in the previous year from eight parishes. We held our third Crowdfunder Prize Draw to win a Ninja Air Fryer bundle, which raised £540 compared to £550 and £405 in the previous two years. We would like to thank HBH Woolacotts and the School Wear Shop in Plymouth as they donated this year's prize of a Ninja Air Fryer and a £100 supermarket voucher.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Our third 'Rise to Our Cause' event on Ascension Thursday was held at St Cuthbert Mayne in Launceston which raised just over £600 compared to £540 and £450 in the first two years. This annual event is a wonderful opportunity to travel around the Diocese and meet new supporters as the previous two events were held at Buckfast Abbey and St Mary's in Poole. Thank you to everyone involved at St Cuthbert Mayne in Launceston for making last year's event so successful and for the amazing hot buffet provided. Our Guest Speaker was Phil McCarthy, whose presentation on his own pilgrimages to Rome and Istanbul delighted everyone present.

We have now held two Wills Weeks following the success of our first ever Wills Week in 2024 although the event last year raised slightly less than the first year. However, Tozers have confirmed that Wills Weeks become more popular as the years go by, so we are hopeful that this year's event will be the most successful yet. Thank you to Tozers for providing their time and to those supporters who have taken advantage to write a new will or re-write an old one to benefit our charity.

Our new website was launched at the start of the year, thanks to a very generous legacy left by a former Trustee. The new website has received great feedback as it is now much easier to navigate, and forms can be completed online as well as donations can now be made through the new website. We continue to review the website and make improvements following feedback we receive from our end users.

Annual Mass

This year's Annual Mass was held at St John the Baptist in Camborne thanks to Fr Jaraslaw and the children of St John's Catholic Primary School. It was a beautiful mass, which included readings by some of the Year 6's and the most wonderful singing from the whole school. Our Annual Mass is our way of continuing to thank all our supporters as well as highlighting the important work that we do. We like to travel around the Diocese to meet new supporters, and we look forward to visiting St Mary's in Axminster in 2026.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Summary of achievements in 2024 • Essential Grant Programme • EGP

The number of applications processed in 2025 was higher than it has been in previous years, which shows there continues to be a high demand for the EGP with many families in need within the Diocese. The cost-of-living crisis continues to impact on families, along with family dynamics changing due to ill health, a change in family circumstances, bereavement, and moving home. We have also seen a marked increase in the number of applications from families fleeing their home countries with no belongings and seeking refuge in this country having to start from scratch.

The number of applications received has increased considerably to 282, of which 269 were considered by the panel and 214 of these were processed. This is the number of families/carers who have been supported by the charity during 2025. The number of children within a family with additional needs has doubled and the number of adults/applicants who have a disability has almost doubled from the figures the previous year. We envisage that this number will continue to increase as the cost-of-living is becoming too great for many of the families living within the Diocese.

- Of the 214 applications approved and processed in 2025, the number of children benefiting directly from item/s purchased was 162
- The number of children within a family with additional needs was 54
- The number of adults/applicants who have a disability or additional needs was 43
- The number of items purchased for families/carers (uniform is classed as one item) was 481

The number of items purchased has risen from 354 in 2024 and an example of the items provided in 2025 include baby clothing and shoes, baby equipment, beds and mattresses, car seats, children's clothing and footwear, chests of drawers, heated clothes airers, condenser tumble dryers, cookers, fridge/freezers, microwaves, prams & double buggies, rugs, school uniforms including school shoes, sensory clothing, sofas, stairgates, tables and chairs, vacuum cleaners, wardrobes, washing machines, weighted vests and a year 6 residential.

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of grants received and considered	396	211	186	269
Number of grants suspended/not processed due to budget	56	22	32	13
Total number of grant applications received	452	233	218	282
Applications declined/cancelled or no longer needed	166	63	45	55
Total number of grants approved and funded	230	148	141	214

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

The Plymouth Diocese covers all of Devon, Cornwall, and parts of Dorset. Most applications received and considered were from Devon and in particular Plymouth, however the number of applications from Cornwall has increased as last year we only received 21 applications.

- Devon applications **202**
- Cornwall applications **60**
- Dorset applications **7**

The charity continues to look at the ways we support families and is continually looking for new ways to promote the Essential Grants Programme to make families and the professional agencies who support those families most in need aware of how we can help all families throughout the Diocese. Upon receipt of a completed application form from a family as well as a reference form completed by a professional supporting the family, the panel of trustees considers each application. If approved, funds are not transferred directly to the family, as the charity purchases the items required, having sourced the best deals available at the time, and then the items are delivered to the family homes.

Unfortunately, due to budget restrictions and the sheer volume of applications the charity receives, the Board of Trustees has set a maximum monthly spend limit, which can sometimes mean that if this limit is reached, some applications may have to be suspended towards the end of the month. The total suspended in 2025 was 13 which is less than in previous years. Referees are then asked to re-submit their suspended applications the following month, as we do not maintain a waiting list. This was not an easy decision for the Board of Trustees to make, but based on finances, donations and reserves, this action had to be taken. However, this remains under constant review.

Last year, we worked with the professionals who completed the EGP applications in order to streamline our procedures, and we are hopeful of having just one combined application form following feedback from many professionals.

We receive many grateful messages from the families we support and the professionals who support them and we endeavor to let our loyal supporters know in our newsletters and on our Social Media pages. This feedback not only encourages more donations, but it assists with applications for external funding. **The charity is extremely grateful for all donations, funding, grants, and legacies that it receives, as this vital money enables the charity to continue with the Essential Grants Programme by helping families within the Plymouth Diocese. Thank you.**

Financial review

Incoming Resources

The Society's incoming resources in the year were £ 143,275 (2024: £129,467). Of this amount £89,994 (2024: £74,975) came from Voluntary Sources. Legacies of £11,000 was received in this period (2024: £ 8,192). Grants totalling £36,884 (2024: £41,620) were secured this year as a result of the efforts of the fund raiser.

Resources Expended

The Society spent £147,242 (2024: £118,020) . Charitable expenditure of £119,423 (2024: £92,124) in the current year comprises £20,733 (2024: £19,967) spent on Pro-active parenting, (the family support project). Grants to individuals and other institutions increased to £58,670 from £39,881 in 2024. The costs of Governance of the Society were £7,470 (2024 £6,016) and £27,819 (2024: £25,896) was applied to generate funds for the Society, including the cost of the fundraiser.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Net Movement in Funds

The net decrease in realised funds for the year was £3,967 (2024 increase of £11,447). Further details on the results for the year and on the movement in funds may be found in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 15 of the financial statements.

Investment policy and objectives

Having regard to the level of reserves and reserves policy, the Directors operate a policy of keeping funds sufficient for day-to-day functioning in current accounts, with the balance administered by investment fund managers – Raymond James/Wren Sterling [previously known as Stockdale Asset Management]. This year the Directors have allocated part of the investments to ensure the Society has sufficient reserves to cover contractual obligations to its staff and suppliers should the Society become unintentionally insolvent.

Policy on reserves

This section of the Directors' Report should be read in conjunction with note 15 to the financial statements. The Society is involved in several projects, the foremost being Pro-active Parenting, (supporting parents/carers and families), which is a permanent feature of the Society's work and its major financial commitment.

The Charity has total unrestricted reserves at 31 December 2025 of £279,278 (2024 - £261,033) and restricted reserves of £10,000 (2024 - £15,000). The Directors consider this level of reserves appropriate (i) to cushion existing activities from unexpected fluctuations in incoming resources, (ii) to enable maintenance and improvement of the projects currently being run and (iii) to enable them to make one-off grants as and when appropriate. A designated reserve has been allocated to ensure that the Society is in a position to meet its contractual obligations to staff and suppliers should any unforeseen event occur which threatens the resources of the Society.

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

- Continue to find alternative and innovative ways of fundraising as well as supporting our existing ways to get involved
- Continue to apply for grant funding from new sources as well as our regular funders
- Continue to promote the importance of regular donations, especially through our new website and also our 50:50 club Helping Hands
- Continue to work with our schools and parishes to ensure more support for our fundraising initiatives
- Continue to promote the Parish Volunteer role and investigate ways to encourage more recruits such as the production of a Parish Volunteer newsletter and zoom meetings to provide support and training to the Parish Volunteers we have recruited

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:

A M Rodgers
H Brown
M T Shepherd
M Macari
D T V Kroonenburg
R Paice
A L Towsey
B S Fearnley

Chair : B S Fearnley

Secretary: R Paice

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 20.4.26 and signed on its behalf by:


B S Fearnley
Chair and trustee

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth) ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth) as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.



Matthew Keane FCCA
Westcotts (SW) LLP
Plym House
3 Longbridge Road
Marsh Mills
Plymouth
PL6 8LT

Date: 20/04/26

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	104,878	33,000	137,878	123,187
Charitable activities	4	1,172	-	1,172	-
Investment income	5	4,225	-	4,225	6,280
Total income		<u>110,275</u>	<u>33,000</u>	<u>143,275</u>	<u>129,467</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	(28,466)	-	(28,466)	(25,896)
Charitable activities	7	(81,423)	(38,000)	(119,423)	(92,124)
Total expenditure		<u>(109,889)</u>	<u>(38,000)</u>	<u>(147,889)</u>	<u>(118,020)</u>
Gains/(losses) on investment assets		<u>24,320</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,320</u>	<u>5,129</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>24,706</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>19,706</u>	<u>16,576</u>
Net movement in funds		24,706	(5,000)	19,706	16,576
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>261,033</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>276,033</u>	<u>259,457</u>
Total funds carried forward	15	<u>285,739</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>295,739</u>	<u>276,033</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 15.

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

(Registration number: 01546053)

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	2,129	1,864
Investments	12	244,396	200,708
		<u>246,525</u>	<u>202,572</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	512	796
Cash at bank and in hand		55,901	79,447
		<u>56,413</u>	<u>80,243</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(7,199)</u>	<u>(6,782)</u>
Net current assets		<u>49,214</u>	<u>73,461</u>
Net assets		<u>295,739</u>	<u>276,033</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		10,000	15,000
Unrestricted income funds			
Designated Funds		23,421	23,864
General Funds		<u>262,318</u>	<u>237,169</u>
Total unrestricted funds		<u>285,739</u>	<u>261,033</u>
Total funds	15	<u>295,739</u>	<u>276,033</u>

For the financial year ending 31 December 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 15 to 30 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 20.04.26 and signed on their behalf by:



B S Fearnley
Chair and trustee

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

St Boniface House
Ashburton
Devon
TQ13 7JL

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth) meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Donated services and facilities

Income from donated goods is recorded only once the proceeds of the sales have been realised. Until such time as the goods are sold, it is not possible to confirm reliably what their market value will be. This is due to the nature of the market for the types of items received, such as antiques and collectors items.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £100.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Electrical equipment	20% reducing balance
Other equipment (including collection boxes)	20% reducing balance

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Debt instruments

Debt instruments which meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method:

Debt instruments that are classified as payable or receivable within one year on initial recognition and which meet the above conditions are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received, net of impairment.

With the exception of some hedging instruments, other debt instruments not meeting these conditions are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Commitments to make and receive loans which meet the conditions mentioned above are measured at cost (which may be nil) less impairment.

Investments

Investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary or preference shares (where shares are publicly traded or their fair value is reliably measurable) are measured at fair value through profit or loss. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Investments in subsidiaries and associates are measured at cost less impairment. For investments in subsidiaries acquired for consideration including the issue of shares qualifying for merger relief, cost is measured by reference to the nominal value of the shares issued plus fair value of other consideration. Any premium is ignored.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Donations and legacies;			
Legacies and bequests	11,000	-	11,000
Appeals and donations	13,261	-	13,261
Donations - Patchwork	1,500	-	1,500
Donations - Fundraising	17,956	-	17,956
Crib offerings	8,726	-	8,726
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants - Fundraising	3,884	33,000	36,884
Diocesan collections - Fundraising	13,350	-	13,350
Sales of donated goods	35,201	-	35,201
	<u>104,878</u>	<u>33,000</u>	<u>137,878</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations - Patchwork	1,500	-	1,500
Legacies	8,192	-	8,192
Donations - Fundraising	22,510	-	22,510
Crib offerings	8,781	-	8,781
Appeals and donations	20,254	-	20,254
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants - Fundraising	5,620	36,000	41,620
Diocesan collections - Fundraising	20,330	-	20,330
	<u>87,187</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>123,187</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £
Rainbows	<u>1,172</u>	<u>1,172</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	2,927	2,927	1,727
Other income from fixed asset investments	1,298	1,298	4,553
	<u>4,225</u>	<u>4,225</u>	<u>6,280</u>

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Fundraising expenses	6,917	6,917	6,032
Fundraising wages	19,619	19,619	18,410
Investment management costs	1,930	1,930	1,454
	<u>28,466</u>	<u>28,466</u>	<u>25,896</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	Designated	General			
	£	£	£	£	£
Direct charitable running costs	-	29,703	-	29,703	22,994
Patchwork Family Support Project	-	20,733	-	20,733	19,967
Direct grant funding of individuals and other institutions	-	20,670	38,000	58,670	39,881
Rainbows	-	2,011	-	2,011	850
Sundry costs	-	253	-	253	2
Indirect support costs	-	159	-	159	183
Other	-	424	-	424	2,231
Governance costs	443	7,027	-	7,470	6,016
	<u>443</u>	<u>80,980</u>	<u>38,000</u>	<u>119,423</u>	<u>92,124</u>

8 Analysis of governance and support costs

	Unrestricted funds		Total 2025	Total 2024
	Designated	General		
	£	£	£	£
Accountant's remuneration	-	1,284	1,284	963
Independent Examiner's remuneration	-	3,468	3,468	4,596
Legal fees	-	2,275	2,275	-
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs	443	-	443	457
	<u>443</u>	<u>7,027</u>	<u>7,470</u>	<u>6,016</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	Unrestricted fund			
	Charitable Activities	Raising Funds		
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs during the year were:				
Wages and salaries	38,950	17,624	56,574	51,101
Pension costs	4,410	1,995	6,405	5,735
	<u>43,360</u>	<u>19,619</u>	<u>62,979</u>	<u>56,836</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Employees	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2025	10,920	10,920
Additions	708	708
At 31 December 2025	11,628	11,628
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2025	9,056	9,056
Charge for the year	443	443
At 31 December 2025	9,499	9,499
Net book value		
At 31 December 2025	2,129	2,129
At 31 December 2024	1,864	1,864

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

12 Fixed asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Other investments	244,396	200,708

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 January 2025	200,708	200,708
Cash investment	20,000	20,000
Additions	256,512	256,512
Disposals	(232,824)	(232,824)
At 31 December 2025	244,396	244,396
Net book value		
At 31 December 2025	244,396	244,396
At 31 December 2024	200,708	200,708

13 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Accrued income	512	796

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security	590	-
Other creditors	1,192	1,239
Accruals	5,417	5,543
	7,199	6,782

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General Funds	237,169	110,275	(109,446)	24,320	262,318
Designated					
Tangible fixed assets	1,864	-	(443)	-	1,421
Trustee designated	22,000	-	-	-	22,000
	23,864	-	(443)	-	23,421
Total unrestricted funds	261,033	110,275	(109,889)	24,320	285,739
Restricted funds					
Direct Grant Funding	15,000	33,000	(38,000)	-	10,000
Total funds	276,033	143,275	(147,889)	24,320	295,739

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General Funds	230,832	93,467	(91,563)	(696)	5,129	237,169
Designated						
Tangible fixed assets	1,625	-	(457)	696	-	1,864
Trustee designated	22,000	-	-	-	-	22,000
	23,625	-	(457)	696	-	23,864
Total unrestricted funds	254,457	93,467	(92,020)	-	5,129	261,033
Restricted funds						
Direct Grant Funding	5,000	36,000	(26,000)	-	-	15,000
Total funds	259,457	129,467	(118,020)	-	5,129	276,033

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

- i) The net book amounts of unrestricted funds invested in tangible fixed assets
- (ii) Details of the Patchwork Family Support Project are explained in the Trustees Report. In 2011 the Trustees decided to designate funds to secure the future of the Patchwork family support project, consequently a transfer amounting to a further two years annual expenses was made from the general fund to cover 2014 and 2015. It also includes incoming resources in the form of donations from participants of Patchwork courses. (The equipment used for the project is included in the Tangible Fixed Assets Fund).
- (iii) The net surplus/(deficit) after transfers to the designated funds represents, if in surplus, funds available for use at the discretion of the Directors to further expand the activities of the Society.
- (iv) Grants or donations received with restrictions over their use.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 December 2025
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	2,129	-	2,129
Fixed asset investments	224,396	-	-	224,396
Current assets	46,413	-	10,000	56,413
Current liabilities	(7,199)	-	-	(7,199)
Total net assets	263,610	2,129	10,000	275,739

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 December 2024
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,864	-	1,864
Fixed asset investments	200,708	-	-	200,708
Current assets	65,243	-	15,000	80,243
Current liabilities	(6,782)	-	-	(6,782)
Total net assets	259,169	1,864	15,000	276,033

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

17 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Neither the Trustee Directors nor any persons connected with them receive any form of remuneration other than reimbursement at a fixed rate per mile for motor car travel and for other expenses incurred in the course of their duties as Trustee Directors. The entitlement was exercised by 3 Trustee Directors (2024:4). The Trustee Directors were reimbursed £1,294 for expenses during the year (2024: £252). Total costs of £2,446 were paid to the Diocesan Trust which was made up of the following; £1,000 to Plymouth Diocesan Trust (2024: £1,000) for bookkeeping and administrative support. The remainder of the costs were paid for general use of the admin costs as supplied by the Diocese.

No grants were given to the Diocese during the year.. At the balance sheet date the amount due to the Diocese was £1,133 (2024 - £646).