



Space4Autism

Social Accounts
2020

We Listen, We Help, We Care



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WELCOME

Welcome to our second set of Social Accounts covering the period from 1st September 2019 to the 31st August 2020.

The aim of these Social Accounts, as well as providing financial and environmental performance information, is to show the social impact of our work and to highlight the achievements of the amazing families with whom we work.

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the second half of this year has been incredibly challenging for us and for the individuals and families that we support and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Trustees, staff team and all of our fantastic volunteers for working so hard during these very difficult times.

Despite the pandemic, 2019/20 has been another year of growth for Space4Autism, we have started new initiatives and developed others and our programme of outreach work has proved to be highly successful.

We were planning to celebrate our 15th birthday in May this year, but events were put on hold due to the pandemic. We hope that 2021 will prove to be a better year and that we will be able to bring everyone together again.

I hope that you find these Social Accounts informative and interesting.

Cheryl Simpson

Chief Officer

Who are Space4Autism?

We are an independent Cheshire based charity that provides a range of clubs, activities and services for children, young people and adults with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and their families.

We began in 2005 when, as a group of parents of children with ASC, we got together to do something about the lack of support and services for families like ours. We felt isolated and excluded and feared for the future of our children.

We began meeting above a pub once a month with a handful of parents and in 2011 set up our first Social Skills Club for children aged 8-12yrs. In 2013 we moved to our first premises but outgrew this within two years. We moved again in 2015 to enable us to offer drop-in sessions during the week whereby we invited professionals to come and speak to parents.

We are based within Cheshire East, but our information and educational services are for everyone. Therefore, our services are available to anyone able to attend our meetings or anyone who can access information on the internet.



We moved to new, larger premises, in September 2017 due to increasing demand for our services.

We now offer office and meeting room space, a sensory suite, art room and a community café and at the time of writing we are constructing a new sensory garden area.

Our HQ provides us with a number of rooms which means that we can run activities simultaneously and it even provides us with office space to sublet to complementary services.

These include:

Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (Assessment and Diagnosis Team for Children and Adults) and also the Adult Hub (for diagnosed adults with ASC), Big Life Group (talking therapies for adults with mental health conditions including ASC), Adelaide Link (tutoring for children with high functioning ASC). The DWP (providing information and support) and the NHS counselling service (providing support for adults with ASC).

Trustees

We have 8 trustees who, as well as bringing personal experience of autism, bring valuable experience from the fields of finance, law, HR, child and community care, business, operations management and safeguarding, they also volunteer a lot of their own time.

Many of the original founders are still actively involved. We consider this a real strength because as well as bringing professional, complementary skills and knowledge, they bring a shared history, experience, passion and commitment to Space4Autism which is at the heart of everything we do.

Staff Team

We now have 3 full time and 29 part time staff:

Chief Officer

Operations Manager

7 club team senior support workers

11 club team support workers

Club admin

5 clinical staff (autism training skills team)

Charity administrator

Activities co-ordinator

Chef

Kitchen technician

Housekeeper

Caretaker



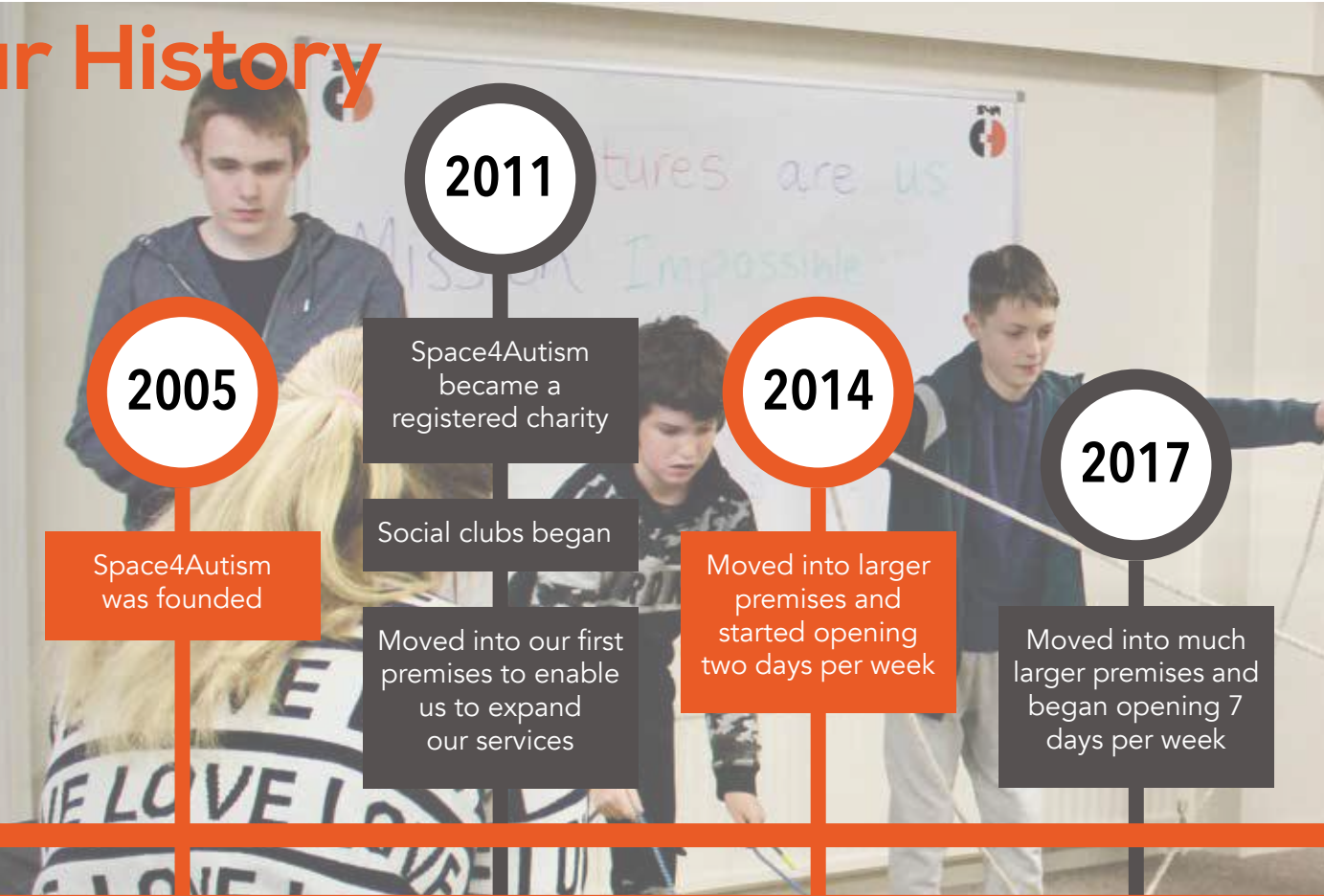
"The staff are so kind and go above and beyond!"

Volunteers

We have an amazing team of 102 volunteers that provides a wide range of services and support. Thanks to their incredible support we were recently awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (the MBE for charities).



Our History



2005

Space4Autism was founded

2011

Space4Autism became a registered charity

Social clubs began

Moved into our first premises to enable us to expand our services

2014

Moved into larger premises and started opening two days per week

2017

Moved into much larger premises and began opening 7 days per week



2018

CWP NHS Foundation Trust moved into our premises to offer assessment and diagnosis for children

Received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

2019

CWP NHS Foundation Trust moved into our premises to offer assessment and diagnosis for adults

Commissioned by ECCCG to develop and run an extensive Parent/Carer Autism Training Programme

2020

Commenced construction of our sensory garden

Began working in partnership with DWP to offer a pioneering outreach service, delivered an extensive range of Covid outreach activities

Entered into the parliamentary review for "Best Practice in Health and Social Care"

What is Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC)?

Autism Spectrum Condition is a condition that affects how a person communicates with, and relates to, other people. It also affects how they make sense of the world around them.

Individuals on the autism spectrum vary enormously from each other but they all share the two 'core' features of autism:

- Persistent difficulties with social communication and social interaction.
- Restricted, repetitive patterns of behaviour, interests, or activities.

People with autism often have other conditions, such as sensory sensitivity, epilepsy and gastrointestinal problems. They may also have mental health problems such as anxiety and depression, often as a result of inadequate support for ASC.

Some, but not all, will behave in difficult and challenging ways. Because of these problems, autistic people often struggle to make friends, do well at school, or find appropriate jobs.

However, with the right help tailored to the needs of the individual person, some people with autism can lead relatively independent lives. Others will continue to need support and understanding throughout their lives.



More than 99% of the public say that they have heard of autism but only 16% of autistic people and their families think the public have a good understanding of the condition.

Around 700,000 people in the UK have autism (more than 1 in every 100). If you include their families, autism is a part of daily life for 2.8 million people.

Autism is a hidden disability - you can't always tell if someone is autistic.

While autism is incurable, the right support at the right time can make an enormous difference to people's lives.

70% of autistic adults say that they are not getting the help they need from social services.

22% of children with autism have no friends at all; 10% said their friends were mostly adults.

At least 1 in 3 autistic adults are experiencing severe mental health difficulties due to lack of support.

Autism doesn't just affect children. Autistic children grow up to be autistic adults.

Only 32% of autistic adults in the UK are in some kind of paid employment.

MISSION

Our mission is to promote social inclusion for the benefit of children and adults on the autism spectrum and their families principally but not exclusively within Cheshire East, who are socially excluded from society or parts of society because of ASC, by:

- Providing education and information to support and enable parents of children and adults with ASC to maximise educational opportunities for their children/adults.
- Raising public awareness of the issues facing children and adults with ASC and their families, both generally and in relation to their social exclusion.
- Providing workshops, forums, advocacy and general support.
- Providing recreational facilities and opportunities for children and adults with ASC and their families.

Overview of Our Service

In 2019/20 we ran the following projects, which were accessed by over 1,900 families:

Space for Kids - a club for children aged 5 to 8. Children affected by ASC often struggle to access mainstream activities such as football, social clubs, and music clubs as they do not understand the context of social situations and need to have 1-1 support, which can also add a barrier to integration.

Fun Friday - a club for children between the ages of 9 and 13. Fun Friday has a 'youth club' vibe and provides 'chill out time' at the end of the week, whilst offering valuable socialising opportunities.

Saturday Club - a club for children between the ages of 8 and 11. The Saturday Club started following the overwhelming demand for our Fun Friday club!

Space for You - a club for teenagers providing valuable opportunities to develop skills for independence such as social interaction, relationship building and developing communication.



Galaxy Group - a social group for adults (18+). The group offers lots of social activities.

Yoga Sessions - sessions for the whole family, catering for around 30 people fortnightly.

Space4Carers - Held monthly, the support group meetings provide a valuable lifeline for families, who often feel isolated and frustrated.

Football - for children aged 9-18 supported by Cheshire FA – we started this project as many of our club members were finding it difficult to access mainstream football clubs.

Campaigning - we work with our local MP and statutory services to ensure that the experiences of those that we support are represented.

Adult ASC Counselling Service - we offer regular 1:1 counselling appointments to our ASC adults.

Open Space - a 'drop in' project for people of all ages with ASC, their families and professionals that might encounter autism as part of their roles. Open Monday to Thursday (10-3) during term time, the project offers regular talks and advice from visiting professionals, support from our 'in house' team and a familiar place to meet other people affected by ASC or to meet with external agencies in a 'safe space'.

DWP - we work with the Department for Work and Pensions to offer 1:1 appointments for adults with ASC once a week.

S4A Café (including new sensory café area) - our café is open 5 days a week to members and the public. It is staffed by a highly qualified chef and supported by adults with ASC and volunteers. The aim, as well as serving quality, affordable food, is to promote the abilities of people with autism, to remove stigma and to promote inclusion to our wider community. Our new sensory café space offers a dark, quiet, peaceful place to enjoy the café for those with sensory issues (common with ASC).



Educational Workshops - we organise and host a wide range of workshops for parents, carers and professionals. In 2019/20 we provided 8 workshops each attended by around 40 people. Subjects include: sensory issues, challenging behaviour and what its really like to live with ASC.

After School Club - operating 4 days a week during term time (35 weeks a year) from 3.30pm – 5pm. It is open to children and young people aged between 0 and 18 and their siblings.

Art Therapy - a form of psychotherapy that uses art media as a mode of expression and communication. Art is used as a way to address emotional issues which may be confusing and distressing for people with ASC. Art therapy also helps people to explore, understand and communicate their feelings.

Cookery Classes – our chef runs 3 classes per week during term time, 2 for adults and 1 for children.

Hospitality Training – a chance for people with ASC, their parent/carers and volunteers to learn kitchen and serving skills within our S4A café.

Employment Training – working with a Manchester based hotel to offer work experience in a live environment for our ASC adults.

Occupational Therapy Sessions – held once a month with led by an ASC Occupational Therapist.

Sleep Clinic – held once a month with a sleep clinician, supporting individuals and families with strategies and techniques to help with sleeplessness.

Adult Hubs - our innovative hubs run monthly at our HQ and we work with Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (Adult Services) to provide monthly satellite 'drop in' services throughout Cheshire for adults with ASC.



1:1 Targeted Advice and Support – we offer 1:1 appointments for parent/carers to come in for general advice and signpost onto other services if required.

Training Programme - we have been commissioned by our local Clinical Commissioning Group to develop, manage and deliver a wide-ranging training programme throughout Cheshire. The programme will include the Cygnet ASC Parenting Programme, adult support, sensory and sleep courses, positive behaviour management, play therapy, autism awareness and much more. In addition, we are developing a NEW 0-4 yrs parenting programme to start in October 2020.

Autism Awareness Training for Professionals – training for companies and other charities delivered by one of our adult ASC members.

Space4All – a school holiday club for the whole family to enjoy (Mon-Thurs).

Covid 19 Outreach Activities

Sadly, due to the coronavirus pandemic we were forced to temporarily close on the 16th March 2020, and we began to deliver the following range of interim outreach services (many of which are ongoing):

- Crisis and emergency helplines staffed 7 days a week 8am-6pm
- Email support 7 days a week
- 'Messenger' support 7 days a week
- 'S4A Supporting Each Other', a Facebook support group to help with shopping, art and craft ideas, games and home schooling
- Adult Hub began using a variety of remote methods including phone, video calls and messenger
- The use of Zoom to run quizzes, chats, games, bingo, autism awareness and yoga
- Close links with local foodbanks, community centres and food delivery companies to support members
- Via Zoom, tutoring for children and young people to provide support with homeworking; topics include Maths, English and Science
- Links with our local CVS to deploy willing volunteers to assist at the local hospital
- Resources via email to print off, i.e. social stories, PECs pictures re: Covid, for the non-verbal
- Assessment and diagnosis team - monthly meetings online and 1:1 support for those in need
- Zoom Meetings to provide group support so that people were able to see and interact with their friends
- Art Live online sessions twice a week for the whole family to enjoy
- CBT counsellor appointments either via Zoom, text, Skype or phone
- Sleep workshops, using Zoom Meeting, with follow-up 1:1 appointments
- Ben Simpson (adult with ASC) delivering workshops via Zoom Meeting on 'Diet and mental health on the Autism spectrum' and also 'What it's really like to live with Autism'
- Cheshire East Autism Team 1:1 remote appointments.
- Space for Kids story time via YouTube
- Occupational Therapy appointments via Zoom Meeting
- Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) started remote 1:1 appointments on our behalf
- Geoff Evans, Autism trainer and consultant, gave 1:1 appointments via Zoom on our behalf to support parents and carers.

On 8th June we opened a bakery so that people could start to return to our centre. On 6th July we re-opened our Café with social distancing and in early August we started to run 1:1 face to face appointments at the Centre.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Impact monitoring and evaluation are well embedded in our work and we gather information on an ongoing basis to provide quantifiable evidence by:

- **Keeping records** of attendance throughout the year
- **Using Charitylog** (cloud-based charity management CRM software), to record and monitor beneficiary numbers and demographics
- **Providing feedback questionnaires** after any 'external' activity (professionals sessions, yoga and mindfulness, art therapy) to ascertain knowledge gained and any other benefits
- **Gathering a number of 'case studies'** - individual stories that feedback on experiences
- **Compiling Social Accounts**, to collate information from the above activities to present to interested parties.

Key Findings - in the Year to 31st August 2020:

We have seen steady growth since we began in 2005, and at the start of this accounting period (August 2019), we had 2,649 members. We now support 3,683 members - an increase of 1,034 (39%) in just over 12 months.

We have delivered intensive sessions with

896

individuals in the following areas:

- Housing - 13
- Finances - 26
- Behaviour - 132
- Info and advice - 361
- Work/education/training - 70
- Education issues - 84
- Carers support - 210



Of the 896 sessions, 17 are still ongoing.

Of the 879 completed sessions

100%



have achieved positive success and satisfaction feedback ratings.

Our members are broken down into the following age categories:

Under 4 - 129

4 to 8 - 492

9 to 11 - 345

12 to 14 - 276

15 to 18 - 188

19 to 25 - 186

26 to 64 - 2067

Of these 335 are adults with ASC and 759 are children with ASC.

We had a total of

12,481

attendances at our sessions!



We have made over

13,500

'individual contacts' with members via email, letters and social media etc. In addition, we send out regular updates to over 3,000 website subscribers.



Key Findings During Covid-19 from 17th March - 31st August 2020

Between closing our doors on 16th March and our year end (31st August) we were able to support **2,344 members** via our outreach activities.

During this period:

- 173 new members joined Space4Autism
- We ran 261 remote activities
- Activities were attended by 1826 members
- We signposted 662 members to outside services i.e. CEAT, Cre8, CWP Helpline, social care etc. We also referred 403 members to external provider services that are based 'in-house'.

This is our second set of Social Accounts and our aim is to continue to produce them every year. They help us to improve our monitoring and evaluation activities and thereby enable us to better 'self-report' on the difference that our work is making.

Achievements During the Year to 31st August 2020

May 2020 marked our 15th year of operation.

Staff Activities:

- 33 staff/volunteers attended safeguarding training
- 10 staff completed their Covid-19 psychological 1st aid course
- We employed a Health and Social Care apprentice, a Club administrator, a Charity administrator and another member of the kitchen brigade.

New Services and Activities:

- Launched Autism Awareness training for professionals and businesses
- Opened a dedicated sensory area within our Café
- Launched a bakery selling fresh cakes, bread and Sweet Meadow ice cream
- Developed a new youth steering group
- Launched the Adult Hub, Counselling Space for ASC Adults and a bespoke parent/carer ASC Training Programme
- Designed and opened a Messy Play Room
- Opened our inclusive bathroom facilities
- Worked in partnership with DWP to support finance and employment opportunities for adults with ASC
- Worked with Change in Education to provide work experience
- Worked with CWP NHS Foundation Trust, ECCCG and Cheshire Council to improve the pathway for autism diagnosis in Cheshire
- We worked with Cheshire-Online to create our new vibrant website and introduced new staff uniforms - changing our colour theme from blue to orange. We also worked with an IT specialist to update and secure all our systems.



Awards and Supporter Activities:

- We were **finalists in the Superhero Awards and the North West Coast Innovation Awards** for the Adult Hub
- We were entered into the **Parliamentary review for best practice** in health and social care
- We were selected as **Charity of the Year** by Iceland Foods and other local businesses.
- **Vibe Manchester** made a short film of our work to show good practice during Charities week
- Our supporters set up **17 JustGiving pages** - raising **£6,514.36**
- We held **several pre Covid fundraising events** including a fashion show, bingo, curry and karaoke night and afternoon tea
- We held our **Christmas Market** working with local businesses. It was attended by over 200 people.

"I love volunteering for Space4Autism and have learnt a great deal and met some smashing folk in the last 12 months."

Case Studies

We are privileged to work with some amazing children, young people and adults at Space4Autism.

Here are a just few of their stories:



Case Study 1

R is 9 years old and has been attending our social clubs for 14 months. Our social clubs are all about sharing, developing communication skills and increasing social interaction and having fun! During her time with us, R has flourished. She loves the clubs and is becoming much more confident. When R first attended, she was very shy, she wouldn't stay without her mum, and she wouldn't speak to any staff members, volunteers or other children. She would bring her 'teddy' with her to every session and would never let it leave her side.

During her time with us R has changed dramatically. She arrives at the social clubs, without 'teddy', and engages enthusiastically with the other children, staff and volunteer team. Her confidence has greatly increased. She actively takes part in craft activities, plays games with other children, takes turns and happily shares. She also participates in circle time, giving her thoughts on the activities and themes undertaken during the sessions.

She has now moved into the older social group. A change which would previously have caused great anxiety for R, yet she has taken it in her stride. In addition, as well as social clubs, R's decreased anxiety

means that she is now able to attend other sessions such as the Holiday Clubs, After School Club and Art Sessions.

As well as working with R, we also help her mum. She has attended the Training Programme for parents/carers of children with ASC and our Sleep Clinic. In addition, she has received regular support through the 1:1 Advice and Support Appointments before and during lockdown and regularly engages with the 'S4A Supporting Each Other Facebook Group', which is a support network for adults with ASC and parents/carers of autistic individuals to share ideas and advice.



"Thank you so much you guys are amazing and are really giving me some hope."



Case Study 2

B has been an adult member of Space4Autism since 2018. She initially joined to make friends and to feel less isolated. This year, during the Covid 19 lockdown, she requested more support as she was struggling to cope, and her anxiety had greatly increased. She told us that she was self-harming and that she did not feel worthy of help and support.

We contacted B every day via messenger, Telegram, phone, and email, we made sure that she knew that we were there for her and that she could speak to us at any time.

Following her disclosure of self-harm, we sought permission from her to contact her GP. Her medication was increased, and she was referred to Adult Social Care for an assessment. This led to more support via Mental Health Re-Ablement and subsequent counselling sessions which have given B strategies to deal with anxiety.

We also contacted her workplace to discuss flexible working and reasonable adjustments. Her workplace has adjusted her shifts and are now more understanding of her autism.

B says that she now feels supported and has the strategies to deal with her anxiety. She now attends our Adult Hub and Galaxy social group and has recently signed up to attend the art sessions as art is a passion of hers.

She is much happier now and the future looks bright.



Case Study 3

K rang the Space4Autism helpline in May. Her daughter was on the waiting list for autism assessment, but it was being delayed due to Covid 19. K rang for help with her daughter's restricted eating, frequent meltdowns and difficulty settling to sleep.

K had previously attended our parenting courses and was using all the strategies at her disposal. However, during our discussions it became clear that many of her daughter's behaviours stemmed from difficulties with sensory overload.

We signposted K to resources around restricted eating and sensory differences and sent her a checklist to help identify her daughter's specific needs. In addition, we provided initial advice around improving sleep and K attended a two-week sleep course in the summer, delivered over Zoom by our sleep practitioner.

We continued to support K throughout lockdown as the situation presented her with many new challenges. She has since reported that she has a much better understanding of how to help her daughter, and that both are making good progress.

We Listen, We Help, We Care

Compliances

We have the following Policies and Procedures - all of which are monitored and reviewed regularly:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Vulnerable Adult and Safeguarding Policy
- Transport Policy
- Work Experience Policy
- Dress Code
- Expenses Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Anti-Harassment and Bullying Policy
- Anti-Corruption and Bribery Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Disciplinary and Capability Procedure
- Grievance Procedure
- Sickness Absence Policy
- Time Off for Antenatal Appointments Policy
- Time Off for Adoption Appointments Policy
- Maternity Policy
- Adoption Policy
- Paternity Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Shared Parental Leave (Birth) Policy
- Shared Parental Leave (Adoption) Policy
- Parental Leave Policy
- Time Off for Dependents Policy
- Compassionate Leave Policy
- Flexible Working Policy
- Time Off for Public Duties Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Risk Assessment Policy (including Covid-19)
- PPE Policy
- Social Distancing Policy
- Working Students under 16 Policy
- Smoking Policy
- Privacy Standard (GDPR)
- IT and Communications Systems Policy
- Social Media Policy



"Just love you all, above and beyond, so lucky to have you supporting us."



We have the following insurance cover:

Employers Liability Insurance - £10,000,000

Public/Products Liability Insurance - £10,000,000

Company and charity law:

Our financial statements are prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

We are members of:

- Community and Voluntary Services (CVS) Cheshire East
- Youth Fed
- Macclesfield Chamber of Commerce
- East Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group (ECCCG)

Economic Impact

Staff in 2019/20:

- We employed 32 staff - 3 full time and 29 part time
- We paid £207,468 in wages and £8,999 in Employer National Insurance Contributions
- We created 6 new jobs
- All of our staff live locally
- We invested over £1,500 towards building the capacity of our staff and volunteers (and therefore the community) by providing training in First Aid, food hygiene, autism understanding and safeguarding.

Volunteers:

We welcomed 102 volunteers in 2019/20 supporting a wide range of activities. Between them they normally contribute approximately 180 hours every week (equivalent to 9,360 hours a year). However, due to Covid 19 many of our volunteers could not come in to help. As a result, they contributed a total of 4,300 hours during the year. Using the living wage of £8.72 per hour as a guide, this means that our volunteers gave time to the value of £39,240 during the year!

Inward Investment:

We have attracted £184,098 in grant and contract funding into the local area during the year enabling us to provide our much-needed project work.

Purchasing Locally:

We have a policy of purchasing locally whenever possible - around 30% of our annual spend goes to local suppliers.



Environmental Impact

We use The Green Office Checklist - a self-evaluation tool, which helps us to assess the environmental performance of our work. The Checklist gives us clear directions for improvement. It asks questions to measure our level of "Green" performance.

It is a comprehensive checklist comprising of 65 questions relating to various environmental topics such as paper usage, energy efficiency, office supplies, general office activities, recycling, transport, Health and Safety and the process for implementation of all of our activities. We scored positive responses to 49 question - equating to 75%. This is an increase of 15% over the last 12 months.

We are pleased with our progress and we will continue to use the Green Office Checklist on a regular basis to improve our performance over the coming months.

Our current key 'Green' activities include:

Paper



- We photocopy double sided
- Non-essential copies are photocopied on re-used paper
- We always 'trial copy' before printing big batches
- We turn scrap paper into notepads
- We use email wherever possible
- We keep documents electronically rather than in paper format wherever possible
- We always reuse or return junk mail
- Margins, fonts etc. are set to minimise waste
- We use recycled paper

Energy



- All of our pipes and tanks are properly insulated
- Our water temperature is comfortably hot
- Windows and doors are free of draughts
- Lights are always turned off in empty rooms
- Lights are turned off as soon as there is enough daylight
- All windows are kept clean and free from obstructions
- All of our lights are energy efficient
- All electrical equipment is switched off when not in use
- Our boiler is regularly serviced
- Our heating is thermostatically controlled

General



- Long life products are always chosen over short life ones
- We use green products - recycled, refillable etc
- We use paperclips rather than staples
- Aerosol products with CFC propellant are avoided
- Materials are always bought in large packs to avoid excessive packaging
- All toilet paper and hand towels are made from recycled fibre
- We avoid products made from tropical hardwoods
- Dripping taps are always repaired quickly
- Low flush volume WCs have been installed
- We don't use disposable cups
- We purchase Fairtrade or organic tea and coffee
- We purchase locally whenever possible
- We use environmentally friendly cleaning materials
- Fridge and freezer door seals are clean, and seal shut
- Outside areas around the office are managed for wildlife.

Recycling



- We keep a recycling bin by the photocopier
- All used paper is saved for recycling
- We recycle all electronic equipment, toner cartridges etc.

Transport



- Meeting times are organised around public transport timetables
- We have information relating to public transport available
- Employees have access to secure, dry cycle storage
- Our working hours are flexible enough to allow people to use public transport.

Health and Safety



- Fresh fruit is available alongside biscuits at break time for visitors
- Clean drinking water is always available
- We grow house plants in the office to lower stress and reduce chemicals
- Sick Building Syndrome problems are identified and corrected
- Sitting at computers for long periods is discouraged
- We enact our policies on lone working, safe use of equipment etc.

Implementation

There are always opportunities to raise environmental issues at staff meetings and we have a suggestion box for environmental ideas. In addition to the above we promote healthy eating and waste minimisation every day at the S4A café. Many of our activities involve food choice and preparation and we always take the opportunity to extol the virtues and benefits of a healthy diet!

Key Actions/Objectives for 2020/21

- To continue to deliver and expand all of the projects outlined earlier in this report
- To implement and run a 0-4yrs parent/carer training course
- To promote the S4A café to the wider community and offer local charities more opportunity to attend
- To implement and run a new drama club for pre-school children
- To implement and run a new toddler group for pre-school children
- To increase provision of our social clubs – they are heavily over-subscribed
- The recruitment of a volunteer co-coordinator to look after our volunteers
- To oversee a building extension to enable us to deliver an increased number of services to a growing number of people
- To turn a plot of land adjacent to the building into a new multi-sensory garden
- To implement and run a new club “mission impossible” as a group for ASC children and their siblings to attend
- To implement and run a friendship group for children with ASC 8-16yrs to help talk about the impact Covid-19 has had on them
- To implement and run a new Space4Carers monthly group
- To work closer with other charities in our area to do more joint working
- To start up Bozzie’s Breakfast Club.

List of Partners and Funders

Referring Partners and Agencies

We are committed to partnership working, sharing knowledge and resources to support the people we serve.

The following organisations are either based or have office space in our HQ:

- Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (children, young people and adult assessment and diagnosis teams)
- Big Life Group (talking therapies for adults with mental health conditions including ASC)
- Adelaide Link (providing tutoring for children with high functioning ASC, that were previously home schooled)
- Cheshire and Warrington Carers Trust – hold monthly coffee mornings for parent/carers

We also work with the following external project partners:

- Eastern Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group
- CaMHS - Children and Adult Mental Health Service - delivery of Cygnet courses
- Professional drop in attendees including: Occupational Therapy, Sleep Clinic, Speech and Language Therapy, Cheshire East Autism Team (CEAT), Cheshire Information and Advice Service (CEIAS), Big Life Step 1, Tenancy and Advice Team, New Leaf
- Cheshire and Warrington Carers Trust
- Living Autism - delivery of educational workshops
- Macclesfield Junior Football Team - delivery of S4A football sessions
- Cheshire East Council - commissioning of Short Break Social Skills clubs for children and young people aged 5-18
- CVS - Community and Voluntary Services Cheshire East - help find funding streams, the Charity Commission, training and DBS checks
- Youth Federation - help with funding streams and training
- PETTS (Prism IT Solutions) - business supporter – donating IT equipment including desktops and laptops
- Plus Dane Housing
- Cheshire East Carers Hub
- Healthwatch
- New Leaf
- HB Cares/MPI Foundation
- Circus Starr
- Healthbox
- Just Drop In
- Adult Social Care
- Family Support Workers
- Local Schools
- Cheshire-Online
- Social Prescribers
- Local Area Co-ordinators
- Cheshire East SEND Team

2019/20 Funders

We would not be able to deliver our services without the support of our funders - a massive 'thank you' to the following:

Trusts and Foundations:

Tudor Trust
Garfield Weston Foundation
St James's Place Charitable Foundation
The Charles Sharland Trust
Children in Need
The National Lottery Community Fund - Awards for All
The Peoples Health Trust
The Swallow Trust
M & C Trust
Active Cheshire
Cheshire Community Foundation
The CRH Charitable Trust
The Lucas Harrison Trust
The Sister Gwen Appleton Charitable Trust
Barbara Ward Children's Foundation
The Douglas Arter Foundation
Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust
The Equilibrium Foundation

W H Smith Charitable Trust
Miss Jo Torrington Children's Fund
The N Smith Charitable Settlement
The Bain Charitable Trust
Blackwood Engineering Trust
The Emerson Foundation
The Hilary Awdry Charitable Trust
Geoff's Ludford Charitable Trust
The David Family Foundation
The Steven Bloch Image of Disability Charitable Trust
The Alan Jenkin Stokes Memorial Trust
The Orchard Trust
The Beryl and Peter Collins Charitable Trust
The Lynn Foundation
Holbeck Charitable Trust
The Grey Court Trust
The Bryan Lancaster Trust
Woodroffe Benton Foundation

The BB Charitable Foundation
The Irving Memorial Trust
UKH Foundation
The Hobson Charity Limited
The Edward Gostling Foundation
The Lee and Bakirgian Family Trust
The W O Street Charitable Foundation
The Culra Charitable Trust
The Gladys Wightwick Charitable Trust
Joan Wilkinson Charitable Trust
David Solomons Charitable Trust
Ordinary People Interesting Lives
The Mather Family Charitable Trust
The Poynton Foundation
Pennycress Trust
The Souter Charitable Trust
Royal London
The Marsh Christian Trust

Other Funders:

Cheshire East Council
Eastern Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS England
The Park Tavern
Pack Horse
NCS Students

Spinners Arms
Tytherington Pharmacy
AstraZeneca Unite
Prestbury Church
Mountain Rescue
Silklife
CN Harrison

Elliott Family
Sir Robert McAlpine 150
Grass Roots charity campaign
Auto Trader
Co-op

Special thanks to our dear friend Angie Patterson for her many kind donations towards our sensory garden. Angie passed away earlier this year and she will be greatly missed by all her friends at Space4Autism. Our sensory garden will be called 'Angie's Garden' in memoriam.



Statement of financial
activities for the year to
31st August 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 Total Funds £	2019 Total Funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	87,307	249,571	336,878	343,126
Charitable activities				
Educational and club activities	797	1,868	2,665	10,654
Cafe Income	15,329	-	15,329	17,820
Other trading activities	4,239	-	4,239	4,880
Investment income	6,444	4,464	10,908	26,024
Other income	100	-	100	-
Total	114,216	255,903	370,119	402,504
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising funds	12,318	-	12,318	13,346
Charitable activities				
Educational & club activities	6,777	21,118	27,895	52,728
Other activities	178,959	202,621	381,580	243,599
Total	198,054	223,739	421,793	309,673
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(83,838)	32,164	(51,674)	92,831
Transfers between funds	1,537	(1,537)	-	-
Net movement in funds	(82,301)	30,627	(51,674)	92,831
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	185,585	54,079	239,664	146,833
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	103,284	84,706	187,990	239,664



Space4Autism

15-17 Mill Lane
Macclesfield
Cheshire
SK11 7NN

www.space4autism.com

 facebook.com/Space4Autism/

 [@Space4Autism](https://twitter.com/Space4Autism)

Charity number: 1141860

"Many thanks for all the Zoom calls over lockdown. They have been fantastic and Oliver has really enjoyed them, having that social connection has been so important.

Huge thanks for all the hard work you do."

We Listen, We Help, We Care