

Patrons Naomi Khoo,
Helene Raynsford and
Lord Brownlow CVO DL

Company Registration Number: 07279320
Charity Number: 1137609



**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st March 2024**

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Contents
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Page
Legal and Administrative information	2
Trustees' Annual Report	4
Statement of Directors Responsibilities.....	12
Independent Auditor's report.....	13
Statement of financial activities	17
Balance sheet	18
Statement of cash flows	19
Notes to the financial statements	20

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

Legal and Administration Information

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Registered office

Kennet Walk Community Centre
Kennet Walk
Kenavon Drive
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 3DG

Company Registration Number: 07279320

Charity Number: 1137609

Outreach addresses

Poplar Place
Shaw Newbury
Berkshire
RG141NA

All Saints School
Norrey's Avenue
Wokingham
Berkshire
RG401UX

Northumberland Road
Southampton
SO14 0EL

Coney Hill Road
Gloucester
GL4 4NA

Moore Avenue
West Howe
Bournemouth
BH11 8AU

Independent Auditor

Crowe UK
R+ Building
2 Blagrove Street
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 1AZ

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

Legal and Administration Information

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

National Westminster Bank
Chatham Rcsc
Western Avenue
Waterside Court
Chatham Maritime
Chatham
Kent
ME4 4RT

Aldermore Bank Plc
Floor 1, Block B,
Western House
Lynch Wood
Peterborough
PE2 6FZ

Shawbrook Bank Limited
Lutea House
Warley Business Park
The Drive
Great Warley
Brentwood
Essex
CM13 3BE

Insurance Broker

Stanmore Insurance Brokers Limited
30 High Street
Little Lever
Bolton
Lancashire
BL3 1NB

Lawyers

Blandy and Blandy, One Friar Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 1DA

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres (Limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

The Trustee Board presents its report, together with the financial statements, for the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

Reference and administrative details of the charity, and its Trustee Directors

Dingley's Promise is a registered charity, number 1137609 and is a charitable company limited by guarantee, number 07279320.

The charity number, company number, present Trustees (also being Directors of the charitable company – hereafter referred to as trustees) are noted on page 1.

Trustee Board

The members of the Trustee Board during the period were as follows:

Chair:	Mr Russell Fowler
Treasurer:	Mr Peter Brogden (resigned 17 th November 2023) Mr James Laidlaw (appointed 17 th November 2023)
Trustees:	Mr Charlie Tate (resigned 16 th October 2023) Mr Michael Scheepers (resigned 4 th July 2023) Ms Masako Eguchi-Bacon Ms Helen Williams (appointed 1 st May 2023) Ms Elizabeth Roles (appointed 1 st May 2023) Ms Cheryl Warren (appointed 17 th November 2023) Ms Emma Kemp (appointed 17 th November 2023) Ms Sarah Clarke (appointed 17 th November 2023) Mr Andrew Logie (appointed 29 th January 2024) Ms Jasmine Anthony (appointed 1 st May 2023 - resigned 4 th July 2023)

Honorary President: Mr David Ormrod

We currently have no parent representatives at any of our centres,

Patrons	Mrs Naomi Khoo Mrs Helene Raynsford Lord Brownlow of Shurlock Row
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Structure, governance, and management

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres is both a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It is governed by Articles of Association, which were approved and adopted in August 2010 (upon registration as a charitable company), and reviewed in 2022 to reflect the full scope of the impact we aim to have on children with SEND and their families across the country

In May 2016, the company formally adopted Dingley's Promise as the new brand name, retaining Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres as its registered company name. The term Dingley's Promise (or Dingley) will be used throughout the remaining narrative sections of this document where appropriate.

As we seek volunteers with new skills and experience and as, inevitably, we must replace volunteers who can no longer work with us for various reasons, the charity will have to "induct" new Trustees on a reasonably regular basis. To provide a consistency and thoroughness of introduction that will maximise the new Trustee contribution as quickly as possible, we follow an induction process which is both simple and yet sufficiently flexible to take account of individual needs and availability. The process is described in the Trustee Induction document dated April 2017, and includes:

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres (Limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

- Attending at least one Board Meeting as an observer;
- Providing a CV and letter/email outlining the contribution that the potential Trustee feels they will make to Dingley's Promise
- Agreeing a written Trustee Role Specification specific to their role on the Board;
- Signing a Trustee Commitment document detailing their commitment to the organisation, including completion, within 3 months of appointment, of a Safeguarding Children Level 1 course and a clear DBS check.

Upon appointment as a Trustee, the Chief Operating Officer will inform Companies House and the Charity Commission of that appointment, and the new Trustee will complete the Ofsted EY2 on-line registration process.

When appointing key management, and when reviewing their remuneration packages, external benchmarking is undertaken against directly compatible roles, wherever possible. The Trustee Board is responsible for setting and agreeing the remuneration package of the CEO. The CEO reviews and recommends changes to the remuneration packages of his/her direct reports (see below), which must be agreed by the Trustee Board who will bear in mind the agreed expenditure budget for the relevant period.

We are aware of the Charity Governance Code and we believe our own main principles and processes by which we govern adhere very closely to the seven principles of good governance contained within the code. As we develop our Trustee Board and ways of working, we will consciously and constantly check our progress against these principles and their underlying directional guidance.

Organisational structure and decision-making process

The Trustee Board delegates day to day management of the operations of the charity to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Catherine McLeod MBE, who was appointed in March 2015. The CEO has five direct reports:

Chief Operating Officer
Fundraising & Communications Manager
Finance Manager
Training Programme Manager
Human Resources Manager

During the 2023/24 financial year, Trustee meetings were held once every two months, either via Teams or in person. In between meetings, decisions were made in consultation with the Chair, Treasurer and other Trustees as required. If necessary, a special meeting of the Board was convened.

In 2016, we created an Advisory Board, and this currently comprises the following individuals:

Laxmi Patel (SEND Law)
Liz Pemberton (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion)
Chris Burnell (Buildings Manager)
Lorna Fairburn (HR)
Charlie Tait (Information Technology)

Objectives and activities

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objective and in planning our future activities.

Dingley's Promise vision is 'The best start for every child'.

Our Mission Statement is 'We deliver life changing support to under 5's with additional needs & disabilities and their families, by providing specialist learning through play, family support & training, and advice to mainstream settings'.

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres (Limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Within this overall framework, our main objectives are:

Reach as many children as possible.
Ensure every child transitions to the best educational option for them when they leave us.
Be active in networking and signposting to ensure all the child's needs are met.
Ensure parents are always given choices and their voices are heard.

We also took the opportunity as part of the strategy review to bring to the fore our core values:

We seek **excellence** in all we do through continuous learning and improvement.
We **care** for each other, our children and their families.

- We promote **development** of children, families & our team in a stimulating environment.
- We work with **integrity**, sharing resources and expertise for best outcomes.
- We **empower** children and families to make their own choices.

The West Berkshire Centre operates from a building in Shaw, Newbury, which opened to families in mid-February 2015. We have a sub-lease for the building, large garden and 10 car parking spaces with Shaw Social Club which is co-terminus with their own lease with West Berkshire Council.

The Wokingham Centre operates from premises within All Saints School in Wokingham. We have a licence to occupy this space (with 12 months notice by either party) and pay both fixed and variable (e.g. utilities costs) elements of rent based on the percentage of space that we occupy within the school.

The Reading Centre operates from a Reading Borough Council owned building for which we pay a peppercorn rent, but for which we must pay the buildings insurance, utilities costs and all associated building maintenance costs as part of the lease. The lease doesn't expire until July 2034.

In January 2023 a new Centre opened in Gloucester, fully funded by Gloucester Council, initially providing places for 16 children and in March 2023 new centres were opening in Southampton and Bournemouth.

Volunteers play a very important role within the charity, assisting with fundraising, undertaking administration to take the pressure off teams, supporting children in the Centres, and helping with mealtimes. Dingley's Promise was awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (the MBE for charities) in June 2011.

Risk Management Statement

A formal Risk Policy has been implemented since February 2015 and is under annual review.

The policy states that:

- The Trustees and executive management of Dingley's Promise believe that sound risk management is integral to both good management and good governance practice.
- Risk management considerations will form an integral part of our decision-making and be incorporated within strategic and operational planning.
- Risk assessment will be conducted on all new activities and projects to ensure they are in line with the Dingley's Promise strategic plan and objectives.
- Risks and opportunities will be identified, analysed and reported at an appropriate level and escalated as necessary.
- A risk register covering key strategic risks will be maintained and updated at least twice a year and more frequently where risks are known to be volatile.
- All staff will be provided with adequate training on risk management and their role and responsibilities in implementing this.

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres (Limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

- Dingley's Promise will regularly review and monitor the effectiveness of its risk management framework and update it as considered appropriate.
- Reports will be made to the Trustee Board and CEO each quarter of continuing and emerging high concern risks and those where priority action is needed to effect better control.
- This policy is a formal acknowledgement that the Trustee Board is committed to maintaining a strong risk management framework. The aim is to ensure that Dingley's Promise makes every effort to manage risk appropriately by maximising potential opportunities whilst minimising the adverse affects of risks.
- This policy will be used to support the internal control systems of Dingley's Promise, enabling us to respond to operational, strategic and financial risks regardless of whether they are internally or externally driven.

Going concern

Our performance in recent years, even those years which resulted in an operating deficit, has always left us at the end of the year with a good cash base, a Reserves Fund to cover a managed wind-down in the event of collapse in funding (or other event resulting in forced closure), sufficient funding in all other restricted funds to cover asset values and liabilities (e.g., unspent grants) and additional unrestricted funds to develop the organisation and its services. We are aware of, and adhere to, the Charity Commission's guidance on 'Managing a charity's finances: planning, managing difficulties and insolvency (CC12)'. We firmly believe that our strong governance and management make a compelling case for Dingley's Promise to be considered a Going Concern.

Achievements and performance

The charity sets and tracks a detailed set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) routinely. These include:

- Operational performance by centre, such as number of hours of learning through play sessions, number of children attending, number of children on waiting list;
- Fundraising performance such as return on investment, grant submissions, grant success rates, number of donors
- Communication performance such as social media followers, website hits and conversion rates, national print and broadcast media coverage
- Training performance such as number of learners, number of children affected, number of places created and revenue.

A "KPI Pack" is updated every month, and distributed to all Board Members prior to each Board meeting, and any questions or observations are covered at the meetings.

This has been another year of strong growth and development at Dingley's Promise. The key focus areas remain unchanged: directly impacting children and their families through existing and new Centres; positively influencing the EY SEND agenda locally and nationally; indirectly impacting large numbers of children by implementing practitioner training across the country. Significant strides have been taken within all of these strategic priorities.

Priority 1: Centres

Centres continue to be the core of the Dingley operation. During the year, two new centres were opened, one in Southampton and the other in Bournemouth. Opening new centres is the most effective method of extending the Dingley impact to more children and families, and opening these two new sites, both fully funded by local authorities, has been a clear demonstration of the charity's strategy in action. The number of children supported during the year across all centres was up 71% on the previous year. Additionally, 67.8% of all children transitioning from Dingley Centres did so into a mainstream environment.

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres (Limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Priority 2: Influencing EY SEND Agenda

Hosted by our Patron, Lord Brownlow, Dingley implemented an event at the House of Lords to launch its manifesto, attended by Members of Parliament, Lords, key players in the EY SEND environment, both nationally and within local authorities. The Dingley CEO, Catherine McLeod, outlined the organisation's manifesto, and the Minister for Children, David Johnston, gave a keynote speech reinforcing many of the manifesto themes. As the year has progressed, Dingley has continued to influence the EY SEND agenda in many forums, examples of which are: being invited to join the DfE EY SEND Expert Advisory Board and Change Program Board; being contracted by the DfE to give strategic support to the Safety Valve and Delivering Better Value initiatives; as a result of Dingley work, The Minister communicated to all Local Authorities regarding the importance of EY SEND funding.

Priority 3: Practitioner Training

Our training initiative continues to be central to our overall strategy, as it provides a way of coding the deep expertise built in centres over several decades, and putting this to work through large numbers of practitioners and settings across the country. Over 14,000 practitioners accessed Dingley training during the year, and the impact of the training led to the creation of 3342 new places in mainstream settings for children with SEND.

Key Events Impacting performance

During this year, the key events that have most impacted our performance have been the opening of two new centres. This represented a 50% increase in our organisational footprint so carried considerable risk. The risk was mitigated by three critical factors: firstly, ensuring that contracts with Local Authorities are in place to fund new centres; secondly, we have added key roles such as a COO and a Quality Manager to the central team to provide the necessary support to the increased number of centres; finally, meticulous planning of the opening of new centres. We are delighted that these activities have allowed us to open the new centres smoothly and without any negative impact on the organisation. We will continue to deploy this proven approach as we open further new centres in the future.

Fundraising

Income comes from four areas.

1. "Donations & Legacies": included in this area are funds raised by fundraising events such as our annual Gala Dinner, and corporate/ personal donations. We set ourselves a target of £136K, against which we achieved £121K, the largest gap being in fundraising events anecdotally driven by higher interest rates and lower disposable income.
2. Charitable Activities – Grants : examples of key grant income this year have been The Big Lottery, Children In Need and an ongoing partnership with Comic Relief. We achieved Grant income of £335K, against a target of £371K, the shortfall driven by Non-Statutory Operational Grants.
3. Government Contracts: the charity's biggest area of income, consisting predominantly of SLA's, but also including specific funding commitments such as The Stronger Practice Hub. In this area, we achieved an income of £631K versus a budget of £616K.
4. Open Market: including income from, for example, the Nursery Education Grant, but also income from our consultancy and training practices. This fundraising area was on target with income of £485K versus a budget of £489k.

We do have third party fundraising partners which include JustGiving, The Good Exchange and challenge providers such as the London Marathon, Ultra Challenge and other event organisers. We monitor the income on these platforms and then match it with the income received in our bank on a regular basis.

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres (Limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

We take part in a range of voluntary fundraising schemes, including partnering on community events, online fundraising through various platforms and challenge fundraising where individuals take on challenges and raise money for us. We do not engage in cash collections on the street, although we sometimes do this in partner business premises such as supermarkets, entertainment venues etc.

Any complaints related to fundraising can be raised through our standard complaints procedure, which is found on our website. This year we have had no fundraising complaints.

We consider four main aspects when fundraising fairly – respect, fairness, responsiveness and accountability. We actively consider whether a donor has the capacity to donate or whether they are vulnerable. We do not ever pressure donors, and are particularly careful about asking our service users for support, as we know they may feel obliged to donate. We are clear that any donations have no effect on the services they receive.

As the organisation grows, expanding its footprint and impacting significantly more children, it is absolutely critical that the internal operations team develops to be able to deliver this growth agenda. This has been a key focus area for the year, and examples of development include: adding the role of Chief Operating Officer, facilitating deeper Operations Management and giving the CEO the headroom required to fulfil their priorities; moving from a combined Fundraising and Marketing role to dedicated roles on both, providing the necessary focus and expertise to continue to fuel expansion in what is proving to be an increasingly challenging fundraising environment; increased Finance resource to ensure that inevitably more complex financial operations are professionally managed, and to implement governance processes to ensure the Executive Team and the Board of Trustees have complete financial transparency as the charity grows. The Board of Trustees is highly aware that they need to support this expansion, but equally must ensure that organisational change is affordable and does not grow faster than the overall organisation.

Finally, 2023/4 has also seen a significant strengthening of the Board of Trustees. Based on a skills assessment undertaken at the end of the previous year, the Board has grown to 9 Trustees with a broad and complementary set of skills that cover all the needs of the charity. The Board includes extensive experience in both EY SEND and business, but also more specialist areas such as Digital, and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Financial Review

Financial performance mirrored the growth and development of the charity's activities. Total income increased by 59% over the previous year to reach £1,576K. Local Authority payments grew by £425K (+206%) reflecting the opening of two new centres, in Southampton and Gloucester towards the end of the prior financial year and the move towards a fully funded operating model.

Earnings from Training and Consultancy also increased significantly from £97K to £222K, a growth of 129%, primarily driven by the on-going training programme with Comic Relief and Consultancy projects for The Department for Education, The Council for Disabled Children & Coram Hemsall's.

Overall, Gifts and Grants were materially in line with the prior year, with the programmes funded by major grantors, Comic Relief, Big Lottery and Children in Need, continuing unchanged.

Expenditure increased from £1,021K in the previous year to £1,601K in 2023/24, (+57%). This was primarily driven by the full year impact of the two new centres in Southampton and Gloucester, opened towards the end of the prior financial year.

At the end of 2023/24 the charity is reporting a net deficit of £25K. The Trustees are confident that this is a temporary imbalance and that the charity comfortably meets its' going concern criteria. The balance sheet remains strong with net assets of £218K and cash available of £204K.

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres (Limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Dingley's Promise opened a new centre in Bournemouth in March 2024 and expects to open several more centres later in 2024/25 so both income and expenditure are expected to grow significantly over the coming year.

Reserves policy

Dingley's Promise recognises the vulnerability of the children and families who rely on its services. The Board of Trustees has therefore agreed a Reserves Policy that requires us to hold sufficient Reserves to continue our Learning Through Play sessions, and associated family support, for a period of four months, were there to be any unforeseen collapse in our funding.

At the start of each financial year the Board of Trustees will determine the level of reserves needed to meet this four-month wind down period, also taking account of staff redundancy costs and any other financial commitments. These costs will be offset against any long-term funding that can be guaranteed to continue during any such wind down period. The level of reserves thus determined will be published in the accounts for the previous financial year.

The Board of Trustees may at times designate additional funds from free reserves for significant project costs or replacement of major assets.

The directors have reviewed and renewed the reserves policy. The new total requirement for 4 months of net operating costs, redundancy and other costs would be £155,787 (2023 - £23,024).

This would be covered by:

Unrestricted Funds	£22,524
Training Funds	£83,099
Newbury Restricted Funds	£-
Reading Restricted Funds	£8,245
Wokingham Restricted Funds	£-
Gloucester Restricted Funds	£31,918
Southampton Restricted Funds	£10,000
Bournemouth Restricted Funds	£-

At the year end, free reserves, as defined by the Charity Commission were £22,524.

Plans for future periods

We continue to be ambitious about transforming the early years for children with SEND and their families, and this is reflected in our five-year strategy that was established in 2022 and is regularly reviewed at key meetings including the Trustee Board meetings. Our five-year strategy has four core focus areas:

- Develop all existing and new Centres to ensure they are centres of excellence, with a focus on ensuring the voice of the child and the voice of our families are central to our work, further expansion of our family support operation, embedding our KPI tracking processes, and ensuring the right quantity and quality of operational management as the organisation expands.
- Open new centres. On the back of the successful openings in Bournemouth and Southampton this year, the charity intends to identify opportunities for new centres in the year ahead. Discussions with several Local Authorities in the South are already underway. Additionally, Dingley plans to prove its potential as a National organisation by opening several centres in the North of England. Again, discussions are underway.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

- Develop our national change work including support and consultancy with 130 local authorities, increased public speaking to raise awareness and profile, and lobbying for national change. Specifically, in 2024/5, the organisation will lobby to simplify SEND funding, work with Ofsted to develop inspection guidelines that support inclusion, and create EY SEND assessment criteria for DfE national application.
- Continue to expand the reach of training, by growing the number of practitioners using it by 50% in the year ahead to 21,000.

The organisation is ambitious about what can be achieved over the coming years, and has the support of teams and stakeholders to achieve this. Two years into the 5 year strategy, the results already achieved give great confidence in this ambition.

Provision of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Directors at the time when this Report of Directors is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and
- that Director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any information needed by the Company's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

In accordance with Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution proposing the reappointment of Crowe U.K. LLP as auditors to the Company will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

This Annual Report, prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006, was approved by the Directors on 30th August 2024 and is signed as authorised on its behalf by:



.....
James Laidlaw
Trustee

Date: 30/8/2024

Dingley Family and Specialsit Early Years Centres

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Report of the Directors' and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards).

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions, disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act and the provisions of the charity's constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Independent Auditor's report
to the Directors of Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centre**

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cashflow statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other matters

Without qualifying our opinion in this respect, we draw your attention to the fact that the 2023 comparative figures did not have an audit performed on them.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Independent Auditor's report (continued)
to the Directors of Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centre**

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the trustees' report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 10, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Independent Auditor's report (continued)
to the Directors of Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centre**

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation, together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The laws and regulations we considered in this context for the charity were Safeguarding regulations, Health & Safety legislation, General Data Protection Regulations and Food Hygiene Standards.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Governors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the timing and recognition of certain income streams and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on income, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Charity Commission and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Independent Auditor's report (continued)
to the Directors of Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centre**

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



.....

Janette Joyce
Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of **Crowe U.K. LLP**
Statutory Auditor

Date: 2 September 2024

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	<i>Total 2023 £</i>
Income from:					
Donations and legacies					
Donations and legacies	2	114,692	6,267	120,959	147,259
Charitable activities					
Grants	3	23,836	311,511	335,347	313,204
Statutory funding	4	-	809,062	809,062	427,555
Other trading income	5	31,093	278,068	309,161	102,546
Income from investments					
Bank interest		<u>1,561</u>	-	<u>1,561</u>	<u>813</u>
Total income and endowments		<u>171,182</u>	<u>1,404,908</u>	<u>1,576,090</u>	<u>991,377</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	111,259	9,052	120,311	92,022
Charitable activities	6	<u>28,944</u>	<u>1,451,572</u>	<u>1,480,516</u>	<u>928,949</u>
Total expenditure		<u>140,203</u>	<u>1,460,624</u>	<u>1,600,827</u>	<u>1,020,971</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		30,979	(55,716)	(24,737)	(29,594)
Transfer between funds	15	<u>(97,213)</u>	<u>97,213</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(66,234)</u>	<u>41,497</u>	<u>(24,737)</u>	<u>(29,594)</u>
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2023		<u>88,758</u>	<u>154,351</u>	<u>243,109</u>	<u>272,703</u>
Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2024		<u>22,524</u>	<u>195,848</u>	<u>218,372</u>	<u>243,109</u>

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

Company Registration number: 07279320


Balance Sheet

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	10	<u>39,060</u>	<u>43,495</u>
Current assets			
Other debtors and prepayments	11	<u>174,022</u>	<u>124,295</u>
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>203,797</u>	<u>304,180</u>
		377,819	428,475
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Other creditors and accruals	12	<u>(198,507)</u>	<u>(228,861)</u>
Net current assets		<u>179,312</u>	<u>199,614</u>
Net assets		<u>218,372</u>	<u>243,109</u>
Represented by:			
Funds			
Unrestricted Funds		22,524	88,758
Restricted funds	14	<u>195,848</u>	<u>154,351</u>
Total funds	13	<u>218,372</u>	<u>243,109</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

These financial statements were approved by the Trustee Director Board and authorised for issue on 30th August 2024 and were signed on their behalf by:



James Laidlaw
Trustee

Date: 30/8/2024

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash provided by operating activities	19	<u>(82,122)</u>	<u>50,038</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest income		1,561	813
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(19,822)</u>	<u>(7,043)</u>
Cash used in investing activities		<u>(18,261)</u>	<u>(6,230)</u>
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(100,383)	43,808
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>304,180</u>	<u>260,372</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u>203,797</u>	<u>304,180</u>
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
Cash in hand		203,797	304,180

The notes on pages 20 to 34 form part of these financial statements

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres (Limited by guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

1. Accounting policies

General information

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres is a registered charity, registered in England and Wales, number 1137609, and a charitable company limited by guarantee, number 07279320, incorporated in England and Wales. The address of its registered office is Kennet Walk Community Centre, Kenavon Drive, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 3GD.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognized at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP(FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

Our performance in recent years, even those years which resulted in an operating deficit, has always left us at the end of the year with a good cash base, a Reserves Fund to cover a managed wind-down in the event of collapse in funding (or other event resulting in forced closure), sufficient funding in all other restricted funds to cover asset values and liabilities (e.g., unspent grants) and additional unrestricted funds to develop the organisation and its services. In each of the last three years, we have operated for a time without a Fundraising Manager yet have achieved income no worse than 9% short of budget and managed our operational expenditure to match. We are aware of, and adhere to, the Charity Commission's guidance on 'Managing a charity's finances: planning, managing difficulties and insolvency (CC12)'. Under normal circumstances we firmly believe that our strong governance and management make a compelling case for Dingley's Promise to be considered a Going Concern.

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The trustees believe that whilst there is some doubt relating to future income streams, this does not give rise to a material uncertainty regarding the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees therefore believe that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

At the end of March 2024, the charity had £203,797 of cash available. The trustees have carried out sensitivity analysis that confirms that should no further income, other than what has been confirmed, be received, the charity is able to meet liabilities as they fall due for at least another 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Funds

Unrestricted funds represent funds of the charitable company that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use.

Restricted funds represent funds available to meet specific expenditure as specified by the fund provider.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Income

All income is recognized in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Income from external grants is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as soon as it is receivable unless donor conditions related to performance and specific deliverables apply. These grants are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration through performance.

Donations & Legacies - Donations and legacies include income generated from the following sources:

- gifts and donations, including legacies given by the founders, patrons, supporters, the general public and businesses
- sponsorships where these are, in substance, in the form of donations rather than payment for goods or services
- revenue derived from the hosting of events.

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, and it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured sufficiently reliably.

For legacies, entitlement is taken when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably, and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material

Charitable Activities - Income received which is a payment for services provided for the benefit of the charity's beneficiaries. It will include activities undertaken in furtherance of the charity's objects and those grants which have conditions as service level agreements with local authorities.

Grants which provide core funding or are of a general nature provided by the Government and charitable trusts and foundations, but will not include those grants which are specifically for the performance of a service or production of charitable goods, for instance a service agreement with a local authority. Grants are recognised in the financial statements when control over the rights or other access to the benefit passes to the charity and receipt of the funds is significantly certain, usually in writing from the grant provider

Government Funding - Local authority grants provided which are specifically for the performance of a service. Provision of such services is invoiced and recognised at the commencement of the period covered by the agreement.

Other Trading Activities – The provision of services other than the charities core activity for the benefit of the charity's beneficiaries via the charity's training sector. Revenue is recognized upon the transfer of the training materials and deemed by the date the software license becomes available to the payee.

Investment Income - Income derived from the investment of cash reserves with a 3rd party institution. Income from interest is recognised upon receipt.

Expenditure

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT, which cannot be recovered. Certain expenditure is apportioned to costs categories based on the estimated amount attributable to the activity during the year.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives.

Equipment - 4 years straight-line
Leasehold improvements - over the remaining term of the lease

Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activity over the period in which the cost is incurred.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognized at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Pensions

The charity contributes to a defined contributions scheme.

Significant judgements and estimates

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There were no judgement or material estimation uncertainties affecting the reported financial performance in the current or prior year.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

2. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	<i>Total 2023 £</i>
Community Groups	9,070	1,800	10,870	7,592
Corporate Donations	6,856	-	6,856	25,325
Donations From Individuals	79,972	4,753	84,725	91,114
Gift Aid	6,107	-	6,107	3,628
Fund Raising Events	12,402	(286)	12,116	14,500
Sale and Merchandise	285	-	285	100
Legacies & Memory Giving	-	-	-	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>114,692</u>	<u>6,267</u>	<u>120,959</u>	<u>147,259</u>

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

3. Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Training	Reading	Wokingham	Newbury	Gloucester	Southampton	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bailey Thomas								-	5,000
Barbara Ward								-	5,000
Berkshire Community Foundation	250							250	5,708
Big Lottery COL				8,791				8,791	9,468
Big Lottery Core				40,087				40,087	39,410
Bosher-Hinton Foundation								-	1,929
Brighter Futures For Children			39,673					39,673	17,035
Children In Need			19,989		19,989			39,978	39,935
Comic Relief		118,013						118,013	114,652
David Solomons Charitable Trust					750			750	-
D'Oyly Carte				1,044	1,044			2,088	-
Field Seymour Park								-	1,790
Garfield Weston			2,083	2,083	2,084			6,250	18,750
Global Make Some Noise			3,333	3,333	3,334			10,000	18,130
Gloucestershire Disability Funds						2,500		2,500	-
Greenham Trust Ltd					20,690			20,690	8,939
Hobson Charity							4,036	4,036	
National Lottery Community Grant				9,257				9,257	
Newbury Town Council					1,000			1,000	
Peter Baker					4,000			4,000	2,000
Shanley Foundation					3,000			3,000	
Sir Jules Thornton								-	1,500
Souter Charitable Trust								-	2,760
THBWCT	500							500	
The Charities Trust								-	350
The Early Charity								-	4,774
The Edward Gosling Foundation								-	6,594
The Openwork Foundation	10,412							10,412	
The Syder Foundation					3,000			3,000	
Wooden Spoon			4,898					4,898	
Wokingham Town Council								-	1,158
Wokingham United Charities								-	3,322
University of Reading			3,500					3,500	
Benevity Charitable Giving	400							400	
Online Giving Foundation	74							74	
St Lawrence Churchlands	2,200							2,200	
St James's Palace								-	5,000
	13,836	118,013	73,476	64,595	58,891	2,500	4,036	335,347	313,204

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

4. Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	<i>Total 2023 £</i>
Service Level Agreements	-	523,026	523,026	174,871
Nursery Education Grant	-	178,650	178,650	181,943
Additional Statutory Funding	-	107,386	107,386	70,741
	<u>-</u>	<u>809,062</u>	<u>809,062</u>	<u>427,555</u>

5. Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	<i>Total 2023 £</i>
Learn Through Play	-	4,753	4,753	5,940
Consultancy	31,093	81,772	112,865	86,886
Training Courses and Materials	-	109,551	109,551	9,720
Stronger Practice Hub	-	81,992	81,992	-
	<u>31,093</u>	<u>278,068</u>	<u>309,161</u>	<u>102,546</u>

6. Total Expenditure

	Staff Costs £	Other Direct Costs £	Support & Governance £	Total 2024 £	<i>Total 2023 £</i>
Cost of raising funds					
Operations	83,706	2,166	-	85,872	71,261
Training	-	6,880	-	6,880	414
Support & Other Costs	-	-	27,559	27,559	20,347
	<u>83,706</u>	<u>9,046</u>	<u>27,559</u>	<u>120,311</u>	<u>92,022</u>
Charitable Activities					
Operations	877,691	136,307	-	1,013,998	604,390
Training	184,394	70,791	-	255,185	174,388
Premises Costs	-	97,840	-	97,840	67,499
Depreciation	-	22,542	-	22,542	22,086
Support & Other Costs	-	-	29,501	29,501	30,117
Governance	-	-	61,450	61,450	30,469
	<u>1,062,085</u>	<u>327,480</u>	<u>90,951</u>	<u>1,480,516</u>	<u>928,949</u>
	<u>1,145,791</u>	<u>336,526</u>	<u>118,510</u>	<u>1,600,827</u>	<u>1,020,971</u>

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

7. Analysis of Support and Governance Costs

	Staff Costs £	Other Costs £	Total 2024 £	<i>Total 2023 £</i>
Support Costs				
Office Cost	-	-	-	-
Finance	-	1,352	1,352	1,231
IT	-	4,383	4,383	1,138
Human Resources	-	12,426	12,426	5,673
Premises	-	98	98	785
Depreciation	-	-	-	-
Marketing	-	25,068	25,068	27,646
Health and Safety	-	-	-	-
Administration and Office	-	13,733	13,733	13,991
	-	57,060	57,060	50,464
Governance costs				
Accounting	-	29,652	29,652	19,407
Audit	-	19,800	19,800	4,739
Other	-	11,998	11,998	6,323
	-	61,450	61,450	30,469
	-	118,510	118,510	80,933

8. Net income/(expenditure)

	Total 2024 £	<i>Total 2023 £</i>
Net income is stated after charging		
Auditor's remuneration - Audit (Incl VAT)	19,800	4,739
Depreciation	22,542	22,087
Operating lease charges	15,952	15,952
	58,294	42,778

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

9. Staff costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	1,049,901	654,432
Employers NI	72,935	41,570
Employer Pension Contributions	<u>22,955</u>	<u>18,243</u>
	<u>1,145,791</u>	<u>714,245</u>
	No.	No.
The average number of part-time employees was	51	48
The average number of full-time employees was	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>

1 employee received employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2023 - Nil).

No member of the Trustee Director Board received any remuneration or expenses during the year (2023 - Nil).

The key management personnel of the charity received employee benefits (including employers pension and employers NIC) totaling £417,220 (2022 - £254,316).

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvements	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£
At 1 April 2023	180,191	57,381	237,572
Additions	3,600	16,222	19,822
Disposals	<u>-</u>	<u>(17,986)</u>	<u>(17,986)</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>183,791</u>	<u>55,618</u>	<u>239,409</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	142,248	51,829	194,077
Charge for the year	17,376	5,166	22,542
Elimination of disposal	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,270)</u>	<u>(16,270)</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>159,624</u>	<u>40,725</u>	<u>200,349</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2024	<u>24,167</u>	<u>14,893</u>	<u>39,060</u>
Net book value At 31 March 2023	<u>37,943</u>	<u>5,552</u>	<u>43,495</u>

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

11. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	144,387	98,854
Prepayments	<u>29,635</u>	<u>25,441</u>
	<u>174,022</u>	<u>124,295</u>

12. Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	7,007	12,566
Other taxes, social security & pensions	23,750	17,573
Accruals & other creditors	20,770	11,133
Deferred income	<u>146,980</u>	<u>187,589</u>
	<u>198,507</u>	<u>228,861</u>

Income received during the year that has been deferred as it does not meet the recognition criteria as set out in the accounting policies is as follows:

	Training Offering	Wokingham	Newbury	Gloucester	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
The Garfield Weston Foundation					
Newbury Town Council			2,000		2,000
The Good Exchange			30,080		30,080
Big Lottery Fund		3,345			3,345
Gloucestershire County Council				70,833	70,833
Comic Relief	29,924				29,924
Irwin Mitchell LLP		1,000			1,000
Wokingham BC	<u> </u>	<u>9,798</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>9,798</u>
	<u>29,924</u>	<u>14,142</u>	<u>32,080</u>	<u>70,833</u>	<u>146,980</u>

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	39,060	39,060
Net current assets	<u>22,524</u>	<u>156,788</u>	<u>179,312</u>
	<u><u>22,524</u></u>	<u><u>195,848</u></u>	<u><u>218,372</u></u>

Comparative for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	43,495	43,495
Net current assets	<u>88,758</u>	<u>110,856</u>	<u>199,614</u>
	<u><u>88,758</u></u>	<u><u>154,351</u></u>	<u><u>243,109</u></u>

Aim and use of restricted funds:

The restricted funds represent grants, donations, statutory funding and the sale of our online courses received for detailed specific purposes. Where these have not been fully expended during the financial year they are carried forward for the following financial year. These funds have been received for specific centres and projects. There are therefore many different funds and for the purposes of the statutory accounts, these have been grouped accordingly to the different centres they relate to.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

14. Restricted Funds 2024

	Balance Brought Forward (1 April 2023) £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance Carried Forward (31 March 2024) £
Training and stronger practice hub	60,290	390,828	(262,065)	(105,954)	83,099
Reading	-	222,007	(297,362)	83,601	8,246
Reading Buildings	35,433	-	(1,785)	-	33,648
Wokingham	26,546	172,892	(220,469)	21,031	-
Wokingham Buildings	-	-	(133)	133	-
Newbury	-	156,246	(252,670)	97,115	691
Newbury Buildings	16,280	-	(13,962)	-	2,318
Gloucester	1,446	214,966	(184,494)	-	31,918
Gloucester Buildings	-	-	(98)	98	-
Southampton	14,356	214,220	(208,431)	-	20,145
Southampton Buildings	-	-	(1,189)	1,189	-
Bournemouth	-	33,750	(17,967)	-	15,783
	<u>154,351</u>	<u>1,404,909</u>	<u>(1,460,625)</u>	<u>97,213</u>	<u>195,848</u>

Comparative year ended 31 March 2023

	<i>Balance Brought Forward 1 April 2022 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>Balance Carried Forward 31 March 2023 £</i>
Training	42,865	192,904	(175,479)	-	60,290
Reading	1,958	198,122	(256,207)	56,127	-
Reading Buildings	37,331	-	(1,898)	-	35,433
Wokingham	11,909	222,457	(207,820)	-	26,546
Newbury	-	133,132	(209,067)	75,935	-
Newbury Buildings	28,607	-	(12,327)	-	16,280
Gloucester	-	47,261	(46,175)	360	1,446
Southampton	-	25,810	(11,454)	-	14,356
	<u>122,670</u>	<u>819,686</u>	<u>(920,427)</u>	<u>132,422</u>	<u>154,351</u>

Details of the material restricted funds are as follows:

Service Level Agreements – Our centres are currently engaged with local authorities in Reading, Wokingham, West Berkshire, Bournemouth, Gloucester and Southampton with a contract for the provision of assessment and outreach provision for children with SEND.

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres (Limited by guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Big Lottery – 60-month project to Increase our reach to families with children with additional needs and disabilities, enabling more children to access early year's education and have the best chance of experiencing mainstream in Wokingham and surrounding areas.

Children In Need – 3-year project to deliver 4 Learn Through Play sessions of 2.5 hours per week for 39 weeks for 3 years in both Reading and West Berkshire Centres and one specialist Intervention/Activity per week for 39 weeks for 3 years, delivered by external specialists, typically lasting 60 minutes or 2 x 30 minutes per week.

Comic Relief – 60-month grant totalling £545,789 dedicated to transforming early education for children with SEND by building inclusion. The funding cover 4 independent streams of work as below:

1. Development and implementation of comprehensive online training programme for practitioners - Through this project, Dingley's Promise will be delivering a comprehensive programme of 10 online courses at all early year's practitioners in a total of 30 LA areas
2. Strategic support for the LA areas engaged to support long term impact
3. Co-production with families throughout
4. Realising maximum impact nationally and internationally through the steering group

Council For Disabled Children – Early Years Disadvantage VCS Grant 2023-25 was awarded to support Priority 2, Early Years Special Educational Need and Disabilities. The EYSEND Partnership with CDC aims to increase access and inclusion in early years for children with SEN and Disabilities. By collaboratively working with National Children's Bureau, partners, and the Department for Education to support early years overarching strategic aims over the funding period (August 2023 – March 2025). Provision on flexible policy implementation support, as needed wider sectoral and parental engagement about key issues that impact our target audiences (LAs, early years sector and disadvantaged families), Stakeholder management, communications, policy messaging, dissemination, signposting, advice, and info (including enabling end users to engage) in the delivery of improved outcomes for disadvantaged families, Learning events and peer support.

Department For Education & Coram Hemsalls – Funding to support providing an opportunity to bring together the concerns about sufficiency in local areas and the strategic approach of central Government in the SEND and AP Plan with a opportunity to create an early years system that is more equitable for children with SEND that enables them to access their early years entitlements and builds inclusion from the earliest stages, and supports legal compliance as the new entitlements are developed.

National Lottery – Fund awarded for £9257 for **transforming outdoor learning and physical development of children with SEND.**

Brighter Futures For Children Covid Recovery – 18-month project specifically for the cohort of children who were most affected by COVID, and aimed to allow those children to recover from the disruption caused by the pandemic and any gaps in their learning or delays in accessing early years provision. It included group sessions in the community, as well as one to one case work where necessary. The sessions will be for children with their families and also for parents alone as follows: - Group play sessions focused on socialisation, transitions and adapting to new environments. These are play-based and will include focuses on fundamental communication skills and physical development. Ideally these will be held at Children's Centres to build the link between them and local families. - Parent group sessions focused on building peer support and hearing from specialist speakers to share information and advice. We expect this to be: - One family session per week (speaker every month from a local service which could be portage, SEN team, early years team, therapists, children's centres, other charities etc.) - Three group play session a week (online or face to face) - Individual sessions with families as necessary either online or face to face - Outreach to local toddler groups to ensure the service is known locally

Openworks Fund – Funding to support a Emotional and Social Development Project for children in our West Berkshire setting, through the provision of new resources.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

15. Transfer of funds

For the year ending 31st March 24, transfers have been made to the value of £97,213 from general unrestricted funds comprising of revenue from undesignated donations, grants and corporate funding and a further transfer of £105,954 from revenues derived from the sale of training courses to cover deficits on operational centre funds. These deficits are a result of underfunding of the Reading, Wokingham & West Berkshire centres and the charity implements a policy of supplementing the core cost of running these three centres out of unrestricted charitable funds to ensure the continuation of these key centres.

16. Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2024 the company had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	Land and buildings 2024 £	<i>Land and Buildings 2023 £</i>
Within 1 year	8,152	15,952
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	-	-
Later than 5 years	-	-

17. Pensions

The charitable company runs a defined contribution scheme. The costs for the year represent the charitable company's contributions to the scheme of £22,955 (2023 - £18,243). At the year-end £4,329 (2023 - £4,914) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

18. Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities. The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

19. Reconciliation of income/(expenditure) in funds to net cash flow from Operating activities

	2024 £	<i>2023 £</i>
Net (expenditure)/income	(24,737)	<i>(29,594)</i>
Add back depreciation charge	22,542	<i>22,087</i>
Add back loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,715	<i>-</i>
Deduct investment income shown in investing activities	(1,561)	<i>(813)</i>
(Increase) in debtors	(49,727)	<i>(65,203)</i>
(Decrease) in creditors	(30,354)	<i>123,561</i>
	<u>(82,122)</u>	<i><u>50,038</u></i>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>(82,122)</u>	<i><u>50,038</u></i>

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cashflows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	304,180	(100,383)	203,797

21. Related party transactions

During the period to 31st March 2024 there were no related party transactions.

**Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres
(Limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

**22. Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31st March 2023**

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>Total 2022</i>
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>				
<i>Donations and legacies</i>				
<i>Donations and legacies</i>	146,029	4,618	150,647	166,804
<i>Grants</i>	6,394	370,313	376,707	289,637
<i>Income from investments</i>				
<i>Bank interest</i>	813	-	813	483
<i>Charitable activities</i>				
<i>Performance related grants</i>	<u>18,455</u>	<u>444,755</u>	<u>463,210</u>	<u>395,281</u>
<i>Total income and endowments</i>	<u>171,691</u>	<u>819,686</u>	<u>991,377</u>	<u>852,205</u>
<i>Expenditure on:</i>				
<i>Raising funds</i>	90,301	1,721	92,022	88,280
<i>Charitable activities</i>	<u>10,243</u>	<u>918,706</u>	<u>928,949</u>	<u>763,599</u>
<i>Total expenditure</i>	<u>100,544</u>	<u>920,427</u>	<u>1,020,971</u>	<u>851,879</u>
<i>Net (expenditure)/income</i>	71,147	(100,741)	(29,594)	326
<i>Transfer between funds</i>	<u>(132,422)</u>	<u>132,422</u>	-	-
<i>Net movement in funds</i>	<u>(61,275)</u>	<u>31,681</u>	<u>(29,594)</u>	<u>326</u>
<i>Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2022</i>	<u>150,033</u>	<u>122,670</u>	<u>272,703</u>	<u>272,377</u>
<i>Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2023</i>	<u><u>88,758</u></u>	<u><u>154,351</u></u>	<u><u>243,109</u></u>	<u><u>272,703</u></u>