

ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 25



MAKING A DIFFERENCE
ONE CHILD AT A TIME



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SECTION A:

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity Name: CHILD's Trust

Formal charity name as recorded with Charity Commission: Children's Home Improvement Learning and Development Trust

Registered Charity Number: 1078151

Charity's Principal Address: PO Box 6056, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG22 5YS

CHARITY TRUSTEES:

Ben Davies, Chair (Trustee since 2003)

Mark Thomas, Operational Director (since 1999)

Maggie Thompson (since 2016)

Mick Boys (since Jan 2018)

Key Personnel: Julie Thomas, Co-Founder

3.63%
ADMIN COSTS OF
TOTAL
EXPENDITURE

OFFICE SUPPORT:

Maggie Thompson Finance & Admin

Laura Thomas Publicity & Events

SECTION B:

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT



STRUCTURE:

CHILD's Trust is governed by a Deed of Verification and the charity is constituted by Trust. Trustees are selected and elected to sit on the Board by the Board of Trustees. There have been no serious incidents to report within the time period of this report.

GOVERNANCE:

The charity is made up entirely of volunteers who receive no payment for their services. It is governed by a Board of Trustees who delegate the day-to-day running of the charity to its Operational Director who is supported by volunteers.

The Trustees have stated that they are satisfied with CHILD's Trust's risk management policy and procedure. To clarify, CHILD's Trust has no trading subsidiaries. The charity has two volunteers, excluding Trustees all of which are voluntarily working and receiving no financial gain from supporting the charity. DBS checks are made on all UK based individuals who will work unsupervised with children when visiting them in South Asia.



SECTION B:

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ... CONTINUED.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT SOURCES:

Funds are raised from the public through fundraising activities such as sponsored walks and one-off events. Individuals can also donate funds online on our website. All fundraising is carried out by volunteers. CHILD's Trust is not financially supported by any government or local authority. Most of the donations received by CHILD's Trust were from UK based supporters. All of our financial and administrative volunteers are UK based, but all beneficiaries are located in South Asia. All of our projects are covered by the need to send funds through official banking systems. However, on occasions we have given small cash gifts when one of our team visited a project.



SECTION C:

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The aim of CHILD's Trust is to provide financial and practical support to underprivileged children throughout the world. The Board of Trustees have decided that at present the work of CHILD's Trust should be focused on the countries of India and Bangladesh.

The Board of Trustees apply the statutory guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

To ensure that overseas spending is monitored CHILD's Trust Founders and/or Board Members would normally visit each project, every year, to check how the funds are spent. In addition to the above, there is monthly contact via email, Zoom and WhatsApp with our larger projects such as the Houses of Hope. This keeps us up to date with day-to-day developments as well as the usual birthday and school/college celebrations.





SECTION D:

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

UK BASED DEVELOPMENTS:

Regular emails, phone and WhatsApp calls as well as video based activities enabled us to keep in touch with all our projects.

In addition to the above we have maintained close links with those who support us, updating them via phone calls and meetings with larger groups such as Churches. Several presentations have been made by the Founders.

SECTION D:

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE CONTINUED...



SOUTH ASIAN DEVELOPMENTS

During the financial year the following visits took place:

September: Mark visited the projects in Bangladesh and held meetings with project leaders in Delhi.

October/November: Mark and Julie were accompanied by their granddaughter, Lily, who helped them visit projects in India. Later in the trip Mark travelled alone to Bangladesh and returned to India where he visited some of the projects.

January/February (25): Julie and Mark visited Bangladesh and India where they visited all of the projects.



SECTION E:

FINANCIAL REVIEW

INCOME:

£1.69m

DONATED SINCE
1999

CHILDS Trust gratefully received £68,595

Income Generation: The majority of financial gifts are given monthly from a large number of individual supporters, through our Child or Project sponsorship programmes, regular monthly donations and generous one off gifts. We have been amazed to see that our income has been maintained in such tough times. During this financial year we have continued to reduce the number of individual Child sponsorship transferring them into project sponsorship.

EXPENDITURE:

Supporting and developing CHILDS Trust existing projects cost £62,450 for the year.

Reserves: CHILDS Trust retains funds in reserve that enables all the educational projects to be funded for 1 year. Additionally there are funds reserved for the House of Hope projects to be supported for 2 years. We saw a significant increase in the cost to support children from our Houses of Hope projects. In the next few years, we are expecting to be supporting 6 -8 children though degree level education.

SECTION F: DECLARATION



The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Full Name Ben Davies
Position Chair
Date: January 2026

Full Name Mark Thomas
Position Operational Director
Date: January 2026