

Annual Report & Financial Statements 2020



ChildVision
National Education Centre for Blind Children

ChildVision Enabling hope, Envisioning possibilities.

Guided by ChildVision's expertise and support, thousands of our students with sight loss and other complex disabilities have bravely overcome their obstacles and grown up to reach their full potential.



Contents

Our Chairman's statement	2
Our CEO's statement	3
Our Values	4
What We Do	4
Our Services	5
ChildVision 2020 at a glance	6
Meeting our strategic objectives	7
Clinical Services	10
Reading Services	16
Education Services	20
National Network Services	28
What our parents had to say during the lockdown	32
Report of the Directors	34
Statement of Directors Responsibilities	40
Report of the Auditors	41
Statement of Financial Activities	43
Balance Sheet	44
Cashflow Statement	45
Notes to the Financial Statements	46
Directors and Other Information	61



Our Chairman's statement

Our young people are at the heart of everything we do at ChildVision. In 2020, Covid-19 brought a year unlike any other in living memory, and against a background of crisis management, scenario planning and the global pandemic we kept our young people at the heart of our planning and delivered our best to them, fighting to do so without compromise.

In 2020 three members (Monica Leech, Chris Cassidy and Richard Ryan) stepped down from their service on our Board, and I would like to thank them for the expertise and invaluable guidance they gave during their time with us. We now welcome Maureen Mulligan, Ray Bowe, Áine Myler, Vincent Keenan and Maureen Winston to the Board. We were deeply shocked and saddened to lose our esteemed board member, Gareth Jones, who passed away in January 2021, and we extend our sympathies to his family. Gareth was a much respected and valued member of the ChildVision community; he will always be greatly missed.

The work of the subcommittees of the Board continued throughout the year to support the executive in the areas of Campus Development, Governance, Finance, Quality and Assurance, and Audit and Compliance, and assisted in our work towards meeting our strategy objectives.

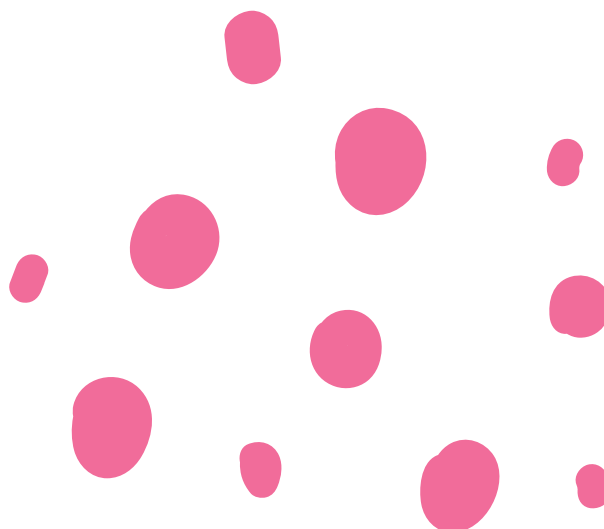
I would like to recognise the immense contribution of the Board of Directors, who have given tirelessly of their time – this is a testament of their commitment to the mission of the organisation.

ChildVision is committed to operating ethically and reporting to the highest standards of accountability and transparency in how we raise and spend our funds. More details on our governance policies can be found in this report and our website www.childvision.ie.

Finally, I would like to thank the entire community of ChildVision: the young people and their families, the staff, and the supporters and donors. We are committed to our strategic plan and delivering on our objectives. I am proud to share the achievements of 2020 and look forward to our continued progress in 2021.



Shane Cowley



Our CEO's statement

In ChildVision we are not limited by the services we provide, if a child comes to us with a problem we will do what we can to meet that child's needs. Visual impairment combined with complex disabilities presents us with unique challenges every day. March 2020 brought a unique set of circumstances that required us demonstrate our best skills with an agile response of care and compassion. In parallel, we made a swift move online so that we could keep our community connected to the heart of what we do.

I want to express my admiration for the resilience shown by the young people, families and staff of ChildVision who adapted in the most difficult circumstances despite personal challenges, and who overcame the challenges of 2020 with the same courage and accomplishment they show every day in ChildVision. Nobody was left behind, we remained Covid-free, and our services were shut for an initial six-week period only.

Thanks to the relentless support of our donors and supporters, new and longstanding, our fundraising income at year end was up on 2019. Your kindness and generosity during 2020 was overwhelming and meant so much to us in a year where so many of our normal fundraising activities were cancelled.

The focus for 2020 was to keep the campus open, to keep services operational and to keep all children and staff safe. We did this successfully and also successfully progressed all objectives of our strategic plan, which you can read about in more detail in the Annual Report and Financial Statements. I know as we look forward to 2021 that the year ahead will allow us to set aside the uncertainty and volatility of 2020 as we move forward with the ambitious plans we have for the campus that our young people so rightly deserve.



Brian Allen



Our Values



Person-Centred Inclusivity

Delivering a person-centred, inclusive service that embraces diversity and encourages participation.



Safety and Integrity

Integrity of care and utmost safety are the pillars of all our interactions with our young people.



Professionalism

Professional and critical practice.



Valuing Uniqueness

Valuing the unique attributes of each child and young person.



Transparency and Accountability

Transparent and accountable decision making made in consultation with stakeholders.

What We Do

ChildVision, is a unique service in Ireland for children and young people with a visual impairment and complex disabilities.

We believe every child should have every opportunity to live their very brightest future. We see the possibilities and hope in every child. We are not limited by the services we provide, we fit to every child's needs; whatever is needed we find a way. ChildVision is a place where children and young people with unique, individual, and often complex disabilities can grow, play, learn and belong, in a way that is totally specialised for each young person.

We are a National Therapeutic and Education Campus of Excellence for the young people who come to us, 90% of whom have additional, complex disabilities and require new, innovative and individualised programmes to meet their needs. Our network team form new alliances with other service providers around the country to ensure our service provision reaches all who need it in good time.

Our staff are specialists in their fields, and our therapies are all about finding new and personalised ways of reaching into, and realising the potential of every child. Our expertise, ability to innovate and service delivery is world class. Our work is about being creative, constantly looking and learning to be the best in the world at what we do, and be ahead of research so we are ready before the children and young people come to us. Our current capital plan seeks to deliver a world class facility, a new campus for our families that will transform their time with us.

www.childvision.ie

Our Services



Clinical Services

Therapies
Speech and Language
Occupational Therapy
Physiotherapy
Nursing
Clinics
Low vision
Ophthalmology
Equine Assisted Occupational Therapy



National Network Services

Assessment
Early Years Arena
Multi-Disciplinary
ADOS2, autism
Family Events
Professional Training Events



Reading Services

Braille
Large Print and Daisy Education Transcription
National Children’s Library
Assistive Technology
Professional Resource Library



Education Services

Lifelong Learning
Social Enterprise programmes
Education Supports
Habilitation, Technical, Orientation and Mobility
Early Years
Residential Term living

ChildVision 2020

at a glance



140 staff
across two locations

2,400

People with sight loss or sight loss and complex needs who benefitted from the services of ChildVision in 2020

€7,332,783m

Total cost to run ChildVision



€810k

Raised through fundraising



€1.6m

Raised for capital programmes through fundraising



1.5

Size of fundraising team



4 weeks to 24 years

Age of students

For every euro raised:



87c

Went to service provision



7c

Went to support enterprise activities for our students



5c

Went to fundraising



1c

Went on governance

Meeting our strategic objectives

ChildVision has ambitious goals and aspirations for the children and young people we care for and support. Despite the significant challenges that 2020 presented, we made progress towards these goals, while transitioning to support our children as best we could. Meanwhile, we unearthed new potential partners, planned and transformed our services and health and safety, strengthened our governance and committees, established new and refined capital plans, significantly reviewed our fundraising activities, and developed strategic plans for our capacity building to fund the future vision for children with vision impairment and complex disabilities.

We set out our ambitious strategic objectives in Adapt to Grow: Strategic Plan 2018–2023. Below we briefly describe our work on each of these strategic objectives during 2020 – the highlights, the impact on our students and their families, and how we plan to move forward on these objectives in 2021.

Strategic objective 1: To deliver the best possible prompt and attentive services to help children belong, grow, and live their best and brightest lives

Highlights of 2020

- Pivoting our services to provide greater outreach, and wraparound services to families including a significant ramp-up of advice, information and digital workshops and supports.
- Radically reviewing our approach on campus when we reopened in May 2020 and also, developing new programmes to work around campus pod restrictions.
- Responding to support families in new and more efficient ways.

Impact

- Supporting families at a time of uncertainty.
- Providing hope and joy to families through equine therapy outreach.
- Ensuring the health and safety of staff and children alike.

In 2021 we will

- Begin the implementation of a masterplan for the development of the campus which will significantly enhance the facilities, providing opportunity for innovation and greater variety of therapeutic programmes.
- Secure planning permission for the campus development.
- Explore possibilities and develop plans for collaboration with third-level institutions in relation to future options for our young people coming to the end of their time on campus.

Meeting our strategic objectives (continued)

Strategic objective 2: To support friendships and relationships with a person-centred ethos and campus

Highlights of 2020

- Working with the HSE to provide vital supports for children with complex needs while also supporting the roll-out of the HSE's Progressing Disabilities and New Directions programmes, and championing the impact of these changes for children with vision impairment and complex disabilities.
- Ensuring change does not compound issues for our children.
- Providing respite and care to families in the midst of the pandemic.
- Opening our campus to partners from other disability services to ensure that our facilities helped many children with disability to benefit in this period of significant upheaval.

Impact

- These activities supported greater inclusion and more equality of access to vital services in a time of significant anxiety, change and challenge for these families.
- Providing respite and a lifeline for families and services who had been significantly affected by Covid-19.

In 2021 we will

- Continue to promote and implement the HSE's New Directions programme.
- Deliver and design programmes for our young people identified as requiring further support on transition from our service.

Strategic objective 3: To improve the outcomes for young people with a visual impairment and multiple disabilities

Highlights of 2020

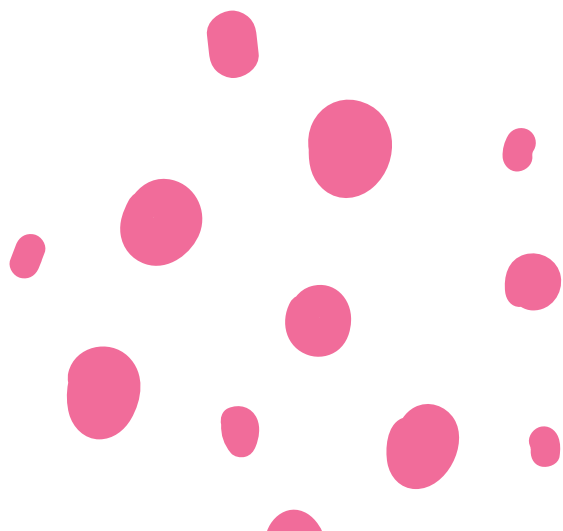
- Innovated services to fit the needs of students as required, notably in therapeutic intervention.
- Delivered workshops and clinics to wide range of stakeholders to improve early intervention for those with complex disabilities in combination with visual impairment.
- Provided greater assisted technology resources to students and children at home so they can have their own 'voice' and extend their own relationships.
- Concentrated on development of mental health and wellbeing training, on autism awareness training (in association with the autism charity AsIAm), and on confidence building through the development of our social enterprise skills programme for students aged 18+.
- Delivered 2,000 orientation and mobility sessions providing vital skills for visually impaired children and young people across the country.

Impact

- These interventions enabled young people to develop their own 'voice' and extend relationships, so giving them greater capacity for independence and interaction with others – all vital skills to foster for this cohort of young people.

In 2021 we will

- Conduct a feasibility study into: the expansion of programmes, living accommodation and respite for our young people.
- Work to ensure that no child is turned away because of shortage of spaces.



Strategic objective 4: To focus on the growth, sustainability and innovation of our service delivery

Highlights of 2020

- New partnerships were formed and developed with two companies, Transitions Optical and Scope. Long term partnerships provide opportunities for ChildVision to diversify income streams and develop new programmatic developments with organisations who have a shared vision for this area.
- A new committee of patrons for future capital fundraising was recruited. This group is prepared to engage once formal plans for the development of the national campus of excellence are in planning phase.
- A Trust provided funding for the development of a new CRM system to include donor details and service information.
- We secured significant funding (€1.6m) from the Immigrant Investor Programme run by the Department of Foreign Affairs, which will enable development of a hydrotherapy centre for people with disabilities, a covered equine arena and an assistive technology hub. Further funding will follow in 2021 and beyond.
- With funding assistance from the Community Foundation of Ireland we completed extensive planning and development work on a new website to improve the online donor development journey and digital resource base for families. This will launch in 2021.

Impact

- The CRM system will allow us to be more efficient and report more effectively on the impact of our work. It will also provide the infrastructure necessary for our fundraising department to grow in line with the strategic objectives of the organisation.
- Capital funding secured will help us to provide a world class campus for young people with complex disabilities and visual impairment when completed.

In 2021 we will

- Develop and implement a fundraising strategy focused on the future sustainability of the organisation.
- Implement CRM system to support the fundraising strategy and a organisation-wide client record system to improve efficiencies.
- Deliver a new website focused on improved donor engagement.
- Develop a sustainability statement for the organisation.
- Continue developing and enhancing our plans for the campus development.

Strategic objective 5: To engage, develop and value our people

Highlights of 2020

- Staff engaged in mental health and wellness training to support students through the pandemic.
- Significant upskilling up staff in 2020 across all disciplines – autism awareness; Horseboy method level 3; clinical training to include infection control, seizure and dysphasia; new technology for assistive technologies; and extensive fundraising and governance workshops with Charities Institute Ireland.
- A high percentage of staff also continued with third-level studies in areas of study chosen to complement their input to the organisation.

Impact

- The impact of this training and other engagement programmes and supports (such as our Staff Development Team) was the continued focus on welfare of our teams, their engagement and wellbeing during the pandemic and overall positive engagement with the new working environment.

In 2021 we will

- Continue to support remote working for those who can work from home, recognising the importance of infection control on campus, and the benefits to working from home – with better retention of staff and improved cost-effectiveness through more sustainable ways of working.
- Continue planning for delivery of our international conference, *Vision 2022*.
- Encourage collaborative projects with European networks on research projects.



Clinical Services

768

Speech and language hours of one-to-one therapy



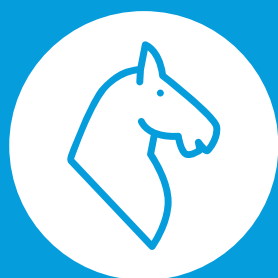
750

Occupational therapy hours of one-to-one therapy



480

Physiotherapy hours of one-to-one therapy



1,306

Equine assisted therapy contact hours from our team to people with sensory needs

21

Equine therapy visits of favourite ponies to family homes after extended periods of lockdown and travel restrictions

5

Equine summer camps on campus

Our clinical therapy teams' response to Covid-19

Like so many of our colleagues nationwide, our three clinical therapy teams (Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, and Physiotherapy) responded to the new and unprecedented challenges to therapy provision that Covid-19 presented us with, while continuing to maintain the health and safety of all the children and young people availing of our services.

Through spring and summer 2020, this involved a move to online and virtual means of engaging with children, families and young people. Observation and consultation on therapy needs were carried out via video-calls, as was guidance/demonstration of therapy strategies and programmes.

With the government's *Roadmap to Recovery* plan on track for gradual easing of public health restrictions, the reopening of schools for September 2020 brought welcome challenges as the team prepared for a safe return to campus. New processes and protocols were developed for safe therapy service provision. These included innovative division of therapy spaces to facilitate capacity for sessions across the team while minimising contacts within classroom hubs and pods, and with sanitisation stations, contact logs and PPE becoming the new normal for all.

Through the third and fourth quarters, new approaches established during the first lockdown of the pandemic continued to be developed, alongside the return to campus. The virtual pathways we opened up became flexible means of maintaining links directly to family homes and with our colleagues across campus, enabling us to give updates and support for the therapy being provided on the ground with the children and young people on site.

Despite being a year of uncertainties and unwelcome changes, 2020 also brought with it many new beginnings and innovations for how therapy was provided. These new methods of engaging and supporting the children, young people and their families provided useful platforms for broadening the scope and format of our therapy service going forward.

Administrative efficiencies

In September 2020, the Therapy department reviewed our triage administration system. The three therapy teams triaged each student for therapy intervention based on different clinical markers and these notes were kept in each of the therapy's own IT record system. Now we have a more holistic, time-effective and integrated IT record system established.



Clinical Services (continued)

Following the triage in September, we put in place a therapy timetable that prioritises which discipline a student needs to see and in what order. This allows for one discipline to be working with one student at any one time. It means that parents, students and teachers can concentrate on one set of goals instead of three. We are also encouraging and empowering parents to let us know what their concerns are and what they feel their child needs more help with.

Supporting the voices of children and young people with MDVI

With much needed support from the Assistive Technology clinic in the Central Remedial Clinic, the Speech and Language Therapy department was successful in securing some much needed assistive technology (AT) devices for some of our multiple disabled and visually impaired (MDVI) students.

This will give a new 'voice' and mode of communication to these students; and with the right intervention, support and exposure it will help enable friendships to blossom and personalities to shine.

Focus on vision

As our Therapy team has undergone staff changes in recent years, collectively as a team we needed to refocus on vision and to ensure that it was central to all the things we do. For the wider team we set up fortnightly in-house visual impairment (VI) training sessions looking at common visual impairments.

Raising public awareness

One means of supporting positive outcomes for all children and young people with visual impairment and multiple disabilities is to raise public awareness. The therapy department contributed to hosting virtual informational events including one on *How to diagnose autism for people with visual impairment* and a *Smart home information workshop*.

Nationwide changes to children and young people's disability services

Progressing Disability Services, the HSE's programme to reorganise children's disability services in Ireland, is currently being rolled out. For the past ten years the ChildVision Therapy team has been actively engaged in the development of the programme through attendance at different planning committees and focus groups.

We have been very firm in promoting the needs of children and young people with VI. Our priority is that the Therapy team in ChildVision remain a specialism so that our students can continue to grow and prosper. Keeping the specialism

team together allows therapy to be specific and focused on vision. A therapy team that is active and vision-focused will lead to new research initiatives as well as better and smarter ways of working.

Provision of therapy-based clinics

The Occupational Therapy department facilitated five seating clinics in 2020. These clinics assessed students for seating and positioning needs and trialled equipment to meet these needs. The focus of the clinics was on school seating, but home-based seating or mobility needs were also catered for in cases where no community service was available.

The Physiotherapy department facilitated two orthotics clinics in 2020, in which students were assessed for and issued with orthotic devices.

Having these clinics facilitated on campus means that students miss less school/programme time and are seen in an environment that is familiar to them.

Equine assisted occupational therapy

We started the year on track to provide the same number of equine assisted occupational therapy interventions as previously. Our first term saw 160 interventions per week during 57 weekly sessions. With Covid-19, however, these numbers reduced dramatically when we were able to return to campus in September when we could run only 42 weekly sessions with approximately 85 interventions per week.

Over the summer non-term time (June, July and August) we provided 4 summer camps to 20 individuals, alongside morning therapeutic sessions for those most in need, as well as home visits and July Provision (a Department of Education initiative for schools to provide special education throughout July).

In 2020 we continued to support our preschool and primary school children, and lifelong learning students with weekly OT lead sessions. Our home visits to the primary school children, provided a much-needed respite from the isolation of lockdown, and the inclusion of equine therapy within the July Provision service was a great success. We reached out through newsletters and workshops to parents and families to offer support and information, fun and ideas.

We were also able to offer this service to a number of past pupils who have moved out into mainstream education. As the service grows, we are seeing increased demand from this cohort, as well as from other early intervention services such as those provided by Enable Ireland.

The year 2020 offered us an opportunity to be really innovative about the ways in which we could support the families and children using our service. We also welcomed clients from Gheel Autism, St Michael's House, Prosper Fingal, the National Association of Housing for the Visually Impaired, and the Meeting Place Group. We were often the only external service that their clients had access to as we were able to work outdoors and socially distanced.

Training and education in equine assisted therapyWe applied and received dormant account funding to design and deliver a curriculum for equine professionals in equine assisted therapy – Horse Sport Ireland worked with us on this project. This should enable us to have a nationally available step-down support service, which is badly needed.

Our OT team provided supervision to both Irish and international third-level students from Occupational Therapy and Early Childhood Education backgrounds, all within the Equine Unit.

Members of the team worked on international projects focusing on the education, training and standards of equine assisted interventions. We are at the forefront of a group organising a national register of practitioners, and we advise national groups and organisations on equine assisted services and the need for greater inclusion.

We upgraded our level of training within the Horse Boy Method, with three team members receiving Level 3 Horse Boy training from Rupert Isaacson. This has led to an increased level of training and development of our horses, and thus has increased the level of therapeutic intervention possible.

Members of our team have had abstracts accepted for the 2021 Horses in Education and Therapy International (HETI) international congress in Seoul and for the international Vision 2022 conference to be hosted in the Dublin Convention Centre in 2022.

Training and developing our horses

During the lockdown months it was essential for us to work on the training and development of our horses. Members of the team took horses home with them to continue development work that they had started earlier in the year. Pasture management was also undertaken with horses out for so long.

We took the opportunity to develop a forest environment sensory area within the yard. One of the team provided portraits of the horses outside each stable. We reorganised our play and learning resources into carry packs for use in the arena and trail.

Involvement in professional groups

Throughout 2020 we expanded our involvement in several external professional groups including:

- The European Equine Facilitated Therapy Network.
- The International Association of Human Animal Interaction Organisations – Equine Task Force.
- The Association of Irish Riding Establishments – Executive committee member.
- Horses in Education and Therapy International – pilot project for National Register of Practitioners.

Home visits

In June, as the Covid-19 numbers dropped and it was safe to do so, we began to visit the homes of our primary school pupils who had missed the interaction with the horses and the team during the lockdown period. We saw 21 children in their own homes over a 3-week period, and this work was covered by RTE news.

During summer, with risk assessments and restrictions in place, were able to offer 5 camps during which was clear that the children we see with sensory disorders had regressed severely during the lockdown period.

Nursing

In 2020 the Nursing team supported 40 children attending the Early Years Service, 56 attending St Joseph's Primary School and 21 attending the Lifelong Learning service, and the team also provided 24-hour on-call nursing to 21 residential students. The team works with a number of different agencies and schools to ensure a holistic approach.

As with previous years, we catered for a number of children/young people with additional disabilities along with visual impairment. A significant number of students require medical intervention daily to enable them to participate in education activities – these include respiratory airway management, specialised feeding, specialised personal care techniques, epilepsy management as well as medication and allergies management.

A small number of children attending the service have life limiting conditions and have very high medical needs that require constant medical observation. All medical interventions provided to students are given promptly and in a professional evidence-based manner in line with policy and procedures.

The Nursing team plays an integral role of the assessment procedure and members attend all specialist team assessments and Early Years arena assessments.

Clinical Services (continued)

In order to provide a holistic multidisciplinary approach to our service delivery, ChildVision has developed a relationship with paediatric registrar Dr Lisa Flynn who visits our service monthly to assist us with any medical concerns. Dr Flynn has a particular interest in children with neurological disability.

Promoting student independence

The Nursing team works closely with other ChildVision departments to ensure student independence is promoted as much as possible. Students are trained in their own self-care in situations such as eye care and self-medication. In order to meet HIQA requirements, medication management is closely supervised by the Nursing team.

Education sessions provided by the Nursing team include infection control, medication administration, epilepsy management and first-aid training.

Maintaining professional competence

The Nursing team members maintain their professional competence by attending regular in-service education sessions, by actively participating in groups through professional bodies, as well as through personal educational research.

Eye clinics

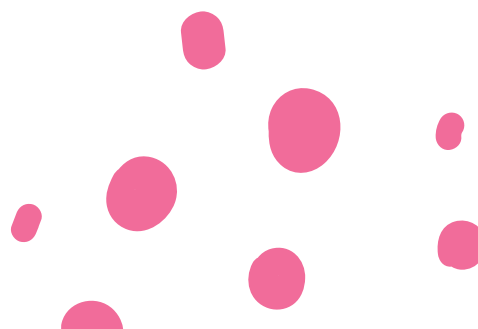
The Nursing team facilitates a weekly eye clinic in conjunction with the Ophthalmology and Optometry departments of Children's Health Ireland at Temple Street. This clinic is provided on site to ensure children can be seen in a safe and comfortable environment, while also allowing individuals working with young people to attend in compliance with recommendations. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, our clinic was cancelled in March 2020. However, 36 children were assessed prior to closure.

The Nursing department's response to Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic brought a significant change in focus to the Nursing department – from facilitating children with high medical needs to safely attend campus for educational provision, to one of maintaining both students and staff safety off-campus.

As Covid-19 was a new challenge to the nurses along with the rest of the country it was a period of significant learning as we developed this advisory role. Among the tasks the Nursing department took on were:

- Taking a significant advisory role within ChildVision's Covid-19 crisis management team in order to allow senior management quickly implement safety strategies.
- Providing a staff support role in relation to Covid-19, particularly in relation to attendance at camps.
- Developing a safety training programme to assist staff to return to campus.
- Developing a return to work safely protocol.
- Continuous retraining on new developments throughout the year as government and HSE guidelines were issued.
- Putting in place Covid-19-related policy and procedures to ensure a Covid- free campus.
- Planning for the implementation of student pods across Early Years/Lifelong learning and residential services to limit social interaction.
- Planning for the implementation of preventative measures relating to Covid-19, including room capacity, hand hygiene protocols, one-way systems and other measures.
- Providing a consultative role to other organisations on campus – St Joseph's Primary School for Children with a Visual Impairment and the Learning Tree Creche.





Reading Services



6,831

Textbook transcriptions to alternative formats for children in mainstream schools all over Ireland



800

Library transactions posted to young members all over Ireland

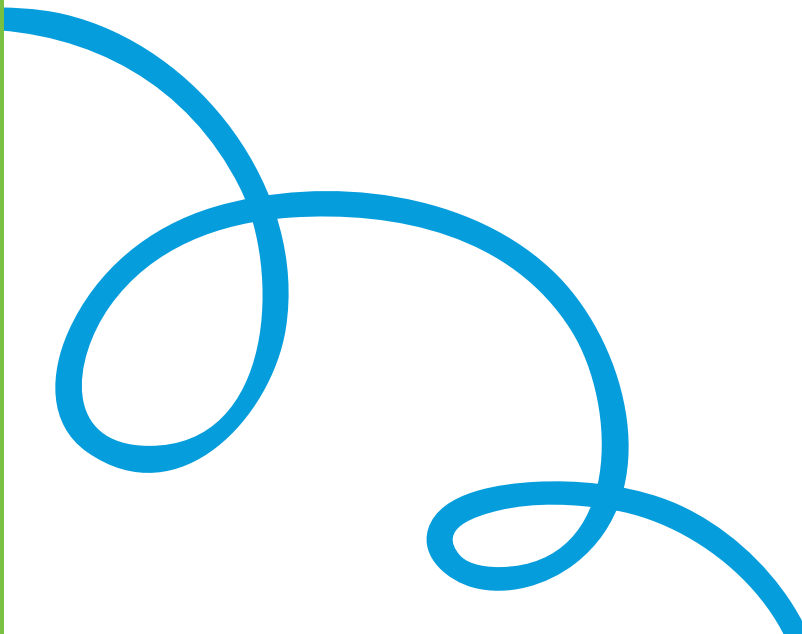
Reading services transcribed nearly 7,000 educational titles into alternative formats (Braille, large print, digital, 3D and tactile) for over 950 students in the academic year 2019/20. Our students are represented nationally and attend mainstream and special schools across the Republic of Ireland with over 65 per cent attending primary education.

The academic year 2019/20 saw the continuation of a rise in the number of requests from students for access to their educational material in digital formats, and this is very much in line with trends within mainstream education.

We also saw a rise in the number of students accessing education through Braille, both in hard copy and through assistive technology. Advances in assistive technology have enabled more choice for students and opportunities to trial new formats. We have continued to progress our collaboration with Sight and Sound technology to ensure our staff and students have up-to-date knowledge on the latest assistive technology in the market. Access to our in-house assistive technology has allowed us to test material and continually support students in relation to digital material, and this knowledge and access proved invaluable during Covid-19 restrictions.

Library membership was up by 9 per cent to 1,250 members. Our members are represented nationally and we deliver titles in a range of alternative formats (Braille, large print, digital, audio, tactile, twin vision, multi-sensory books). Despite the physical library being closed for the majority of the year we still had 800+ transactions, which where a combination of in-house patrons (staff and students), our postal service and digital loans, which are proving more popular year on year.

Table 1 summarises orders fulfilled by the Reading Services department in 2018/2019 and 2019/2020.





Reading Services (continued)

Table 1: Reading Services – orders fulfilled, 2019/2020 and 2018/2019

1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020			1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019		
	New	Reprints		New	Reprints
Braille	102	148	Braille	108	203
3D	7	33	3D	6	262
Large print	487	3283	Large print	329	2,375
Text files	78	271	Text files	82	118
Digital	172	2,250	Digital	282	2,059
Total	846	5,985	Total	807	5,017
		6,831			5,824

Reading Services and Covid-19

Reading Services was proactive in its response to Covid-19. Following the Government's announcement on 12 March 2020, immediate arrangements were made for staff to bring home or arrange to collect their work PCs. By staff having access to their own PCs, there was no downtime for production. All staff were set up with online bookshelf accounts to ensure that work was secure and backed up. A limited number of staff were required on campus to provide support to those working remotely (for example, scanning and uploading books, updating databases, and so on) and for priority embossing, printing and postage.

In the initial stages, the unit also dealt with a considerable number of additional requests to assist with school closures and to facilitate the national move to remote learning. We also dealt with a number of exam students who no longer had access to their curriculum material for study purposes and we prioritised these students, often under difficult circumstances – for example, lack of knowledge of upcoming curriculum requirements, no access to assistive technology and uncertainty around state exams. From August 2020 all staff were set up with GoToMyPC, remote desktop software that allows for smoother work processes and reduced the administrative pressure on staff present on campus. We entered the academic year 2020/21 in a strong position and to date production levels have continued to increase despite more rigid Covid-19 restrictions.

Reading Services: highlights of the year

Sensory story times

Sensory story times are a much loved and integral part of the early years and primary curriculum at ChildVision. Soon after lockdown we transferred these to a series of virtual sensory stories for students that were also promoted through social media. We wanted to provide an experience as close as possible to what the students are used to and to generate ideas for teachers and parents to assist remote learning.

World Book Day 2020

World Book Day 2020 was celebrated with a sensory story on the day, and we also provided a range of WBD titles in large print, Braille and digital formats.

ImagineNation

In April 2020 we produced an accessible version in Braille and large print of ImagineNation, the action-packed playbook produced by Children's Books Ireland and delivered by An Post to all households in Ireland during the first lockdown.

Braille Reading Day

In November, Braille Reading Day was held virtually. Students from around the country made recordings of themselves reading their favourite books in Braille. These videos were then viewed by staff and students from our Lifelong Learning Programme, who provided individualised feedback for each participant.

Assistive technology

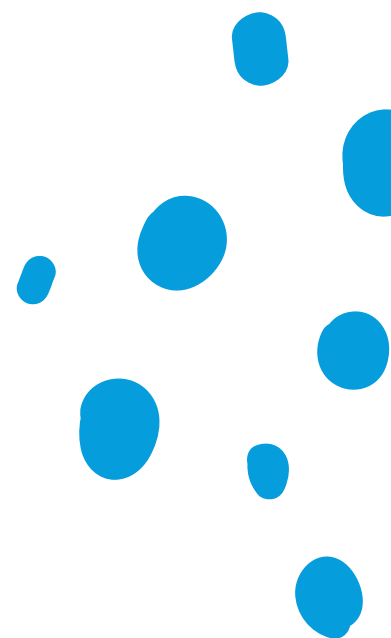
We also continued support to students accessing educational material through assistive technology. Increases in demand for digital material has resulted in Reading Services providing advice and technical support to students on a national level. Fundraising for assistive technology supports has allowed staff to trial material on the newest devices and to grow our 'try it out' service of the latest assistive technology. Collaboration with Sight and Sound Technology has also provided staff training and access to new technology, often with input at the prototype stage.

National Braille Association virtual professional development conference

In November 2020 staff of Reading Services attended the National Braille Association's virtual professional development conference. This presented the opportunity to attend numerous webinars on many subjects from foreign language braille to music braille, from the roots of braille as well as webinars on how best to transcribe braille in algebra and geometry. This was an opportunity to exchange ideas, techniques and questions with other professional transcribers working in the field.

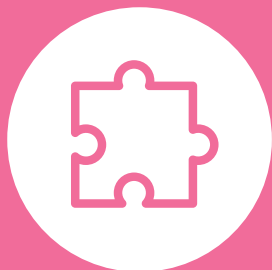
3D printing

Our 3D printing project continued to expand with a number of additional products to support the teaching of mathematics through Braille. 3D is very much an expanding assistive technology, which has enabled us to design, create and produce tools to assist both the teacher and the student in learning through the sense of touch.



Education Services

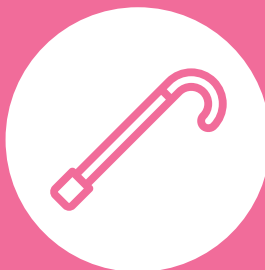
Early Years



400

Virtual support hours during lockdown to littlest learners

Orientation and mobility



1,950

Orientation and mobility sessions to enable independent cane use

360 Transformation pod sessions for greater confidence

39 Virtual sessions on O&M during lockdown

Lifelong learning



500

Lifelong learning virtual classes

80 Modern language virtual classes

20 Health and wellbeing virtual classes

150 Relationship and sexuality virtual classes

2,000 Bars of soap made and sold for the Christmas market

2 Tonnes of paper recycled by our confidential shredding enterprise students

Term-time living



90

Hours of direct social care to one student during the Covid-19-related closure of our houses

450 Hours of emergency respite to 3 young people from outside our service as emergency response to the HSE

100 Hours of respite to a single young person in need during lockdown

4 Hour weekly round trip to one young person for face to face contact

800 Hours of Zoom support classes



Education Services (continued)

Early Years Service (EYS)

In 2020 the Early Years Service was in high demand and extended some of its activities to young children with a visual impairment and other disabilities. The change in name from ChildVision Preschool to ChildVision Early Years' Service better reflects the range of services, notably our early intervention programme, and referrals have grown as a result.

In the academic year 2019/2020, 40 children attended, reducing to 35 attending in September 2020 – this was due to the level of complex conditions and disabilities of the children requiring a place across all rooms.

The Early Years operated on a staff of four full time and two 30-hour positions from January to June with one part-time vacancy for a staff member on a career break. In September 2020, this position was filled, so completing the staffing level.

There was an increased demand on places for children under one year of age. In order to facilitate this demand, it was necessary to give a group of eight children one hour a day, twice a week. Normally this group of one to two-year-olds would have received two hours, twice a week but due to the increase in demand this time had to be divided between eight children. Also, at the same time in this room, a group of children (aged two years), who had previously received two hours twice a week in 2019 and which should have increased to three days were restricted as the third day was now needed to facilitate new children who had contacted the service and wanted to attend.

During this time five children could not be placed in our morning service and were on the waiting list. However, the amount of time given to all children within the early intervention room was reduced for the year in an attempt to facilitate the request for interventions.

As in previous years, 90 per cent of all children attending have multiple disabilities. We also see an increase in

combinations of disabilities which require higher levels of staffing (two per child) in order to best support their activities and development.

Daily pre-school and early intervention sessions take place every morning from 10am to 1pm. Individual sessions with children are offered on two afternoons, and a parent/child group session every Monday morning. Respite sessions are offered on Wednesday afternoons.

Workshops for parents were offered in line with the Family Resource Calendar of Events and in cooperation with the therapy teams.

Special days held were the Christmas Concert, the Early Years Christmas party, the Easter Egg Hunt and the end-of-year graduation. While some events were held virtually, a socially distanced graduation and Christmas experience was experienced and enjoyed by all families.

Table 2 summarises attendance at Early Years Service by age and by number of days per week.

No child is offered a placement of four or more days at present. The preschool did not have any vacancy during the year and all new children were accommodated by being offered one-to-one or group sessions. In December 2020 there were eight children requesting a morning placement but no spaces available.

Assessments

The EYS coordinator provides input in most assessments carried out on campus and has particular expertise in cortical visual impairment (CVI) and in working with the eye gaze equipment.

Functional visual assessments (FVA) are carried out very regularly on internal and external children, as required. ADOS assessments are carried out as requested. On average, four EYS assessments, six to eight FVA assessments and one MDT assessment were carried out monthly and required an EYS staff member to be present.

Table 2: Attendance at Early Years Service 2020

Children by Age	Total	Attend 1 Day Per Week	Attend 2 Day Per Week	Attend 3 Day Per Week
0 to 1 year	4	4	0	0
1 year	3	1	2	0
2 years	12	2	9	1
3 years	4		3	1
4 years	9	1	3	5
5 years	3		2	1

This work forms a core part and is the basis for the specialist vision work provided by the EYS.

Compliance and training

Due to the multi-faceted work of the EYS, colleagues link in with and work in compliance with several bodies, including AIM/ECCE, Túsla, the Department of Education and others. This requires work in attending consultation processes and national conferences, and complying with all the relevant administrative work.

Consequently, our staff stay up to date and attend relevant training on a continuous basis. In 2019/20, all staff completed onsite training with our Nursing team and Speech & Language relating to seizure and dysphasia. Modules to assist in the safe opening of the EYS were completed by all staff on Moodle, as was additional training offered directly by the Dublin City Childcare Committee (DCCC).

Early Years Service and Covid-19

During the Covid-19 lockdown we provided support or general catch-up to all parents by phone or email. We also used video calls, as some children enjoyed the face-to-face contact. Technology such as Padlet was used to send different activities to families for all children. These were in line with their educational goals for the year and were specific to each individual child, and included:

- Activity packs with sensory materials and suggestions of developmentally appropriate activities sent to each child's home along with some treats.
- Individualised sensory stories (incorporating the names of all the people in the child's family) sent to all families.
- CVI and visual specific activities sent out to all children, depending on level of vision.

The majority of families engaged with staff by returning emails, phone calls and by sending in photos of what the children have been up to.

New families referred to the service were contacted and sent a parents' information pack along with some sensory materials. Visits to the service began once restrictions allowed and social distancing guidelines were maintained. Contact was maintained with hospitals, external therapists and other disability services, and referrals continued to be received and processed.

Eight children transitioned to primary school or another early years service in September.

Early Years Cork

Twenty-five children attended the preschool service in our Early Years Cork service, with 13 attending the morning sessions across the week and 12 attending afternoon sessions. Thirty-nine children, all with additional medical needs, attended one-to-one vision support sessions.

The Orientation and Mobility (O&M) service we continue to offer in Cork is vital in preparing students for primary school.

ChildVision Cork coordinated the 3rd *Family Connect Day* on 7 March 2020 – this was designed to inform families about the services provided by sight loss agencies and providers in the southern half of the country. The event was attended by 25 families.

In February, ChildVision Cork rolled out a pilot *Parent Group* to explore how to further support parents in their journey with their child with VI or MDVI. The staff team facilitated a focused group each week with a specific topic of interest to the group. The topics covered included body awareness, emotions, books (tactile / clutter free / colours), toys / guided play, and receptive language (using simple directions with the child).

In March 2020 ChildVision preschool was selected to participate in a project funded by the Department of Children & Youth Affairs and CreativeIrl. A local arts group, Graffiti Theatre Company, worked with the children to offer a unique music programme exploring aspects of imagination, play and creativity. This project operated remotely with the artists sending Zoom links to the activity each week.

To facilitate improved output by the team, staff engaged on a development programme, *Better Start Quality Development Service* focusing on the following areas:

- Developing the curriculum and curriculum statement to better reflect the ethos, philosophy and learning goals and aims for the children's learning and development.
- Reflecting on the importance of the preschool practitioner's role in supporting the children's early learning and development.
- Introducing new strategies to facilitate transitions in a sensitive, responsive and thoughtful manner.
- Using self-evaluation tools to reflect on their practice.
- Supporting children to predict and cope with change and transition within the preschool, so leading to better coping skills in the long term.

Education Services (continued)

Lifelong Learning

Four new students joined the Lifelong Learning programme in 2020, bringing the number of participants to 21 as two students graduated, one leaving for Cork and one for Italy. Three new members of staff also joined the team. All the young people follow their own individual personal plan, which was managed carefully despite the challenges during 2020.

The methodology of how we provide supports changed significantly in 2020. Each person was provided with a package of supports that were specific to their individual needs and wishes. Some young people did not engage in Zoom sessions so received phone or video calls instead. We provided core topic Zoom sessions on human rights training (UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) and relationship and sexuality education sessions, while also providing one-to-one sessions on mindfulness and emotional development to ensure that each young person was managing throughout the year. While our service was only closed for the first lockdown, there were other periods of time where students opted to stay at home for various reasons.

Upon return to campus we used a pod structure, and the Nursing department delivered mental health and well-being classes to students each week up to Christmas. The Outreach department delivered a total of 40 orientation and mobility sessions to students in their local communities.

External partnerships

We maintained our collaboration with external educational partners in 2020.

One young person attended Roslyn Park to attend a Level 4 College Foundation course and another student graduated from an Access to Continuing Education (ACE) course in Killester College.

In February AsIAM facilitated a 4 STARS (School Transition to Adult Responsibilities and Services) Transitions workshop for ChildVision staff and Lifelong Learning participants on autism awareness. STARS is an Erasmus project developed by AsIAM to support people with intellectual disabilities and/or autism as they transition to adulthood. Topics such as healthy living, practical steps, choices and independence were covered in the workshop. ChildVision collaborated with AsIAM on preparation of course materials as this was the first time the workshop was delivered to a group with a visual impairment.

From October to December 2020, DCU Ability supported six students from ChildVision to gain work-based skills and to move closer to gaining employment. This was the first year the Ability programme facilitated people with a visual impairment, so course materials were adapted for online access for VI in partnership with the staff team in ChildVision, so ensuring that each participant could successfully access the course content. Feedback was extremely positive and the partnership will continue in 2021.

Social enterprise

In 2020 the participants partnered with the social enterprise We Make Good to make their *Soap with Soul* brand of soap, and over 2,000 bars were sold, generating income of over €13,000. We have also enlisted two new retailers to stock our soap products. To upscale our soap production, our maintenance carpenter refurbished and fitted out a new lab in a Shomera. This space includes drying racks, an induction hob, oil dispensers, work tables and custom made bevellers.

As the Garden Centre moved to the new polytunnel we were then able to commandeer the old tunnel and renovate it into a classroom space to teach horticulture. From September to December over 1,000 plants were potted on to be sold in the Garden Centre. We made great use of the height adjustable tables funded by Variety Ireland, working outside when weather permitted.

Our Out of Sight confidential shredding enterprise has sent over two tonnes of paper to be recycled. We bought a new baler for the shredding project and installed six new confidential shredding bins around the campus.

We have installed two new portakabins in the garden area, one for the Weave Made It enterprise and the other for weekly Zoom sessions that have become part of our new normal.

In December 2020, The Learning Tree Crèche funded a new letterpress machine. This will be used to further complement the other enterprises and enable us to make hand-made cards, tags and packaging.

We created a dedicated social enterprise Instagram page to promote and highlight the great work of the lifelong learning soap makers. Our soap tutorial video has been viewed over 2,000 times.

Orientation and mobility (O&M)

During the course of 2020 140 students accessed O&M through ChildVision, 96 from our main campus and 44 in the southern half of the country.

Before a student joins the ChildVision service, their needs are assessed by a dedicated O&M specialist, and in 2020 we had ten assessments for new clients from across the country.

For those already within the service, we have conversations with their teachers and families regarding their perceived orientation and mobility needs.

An O&M specialist liaises with 9 teachers in primary school regarding their 53 students, 7 early years educators regarding their 33 children, 10 lifelong learning tutors regarding their 21 students and 5 team leaders of 5 residential houses regarding their 25 students.

From these conversations and any previous O&M provision, an assessment of need is carried out and an O&M specialist organises weekly sessions. The length of time the sessions take is matched to the abilities of the participants – for some, 20 minutes is appropriate, while others may avail of two-hour sessions.

Throughout 2020, four O&M specialists provided training to 12 service users from Early Years, 42 service users from St Joseph's Primary School, 4 students from Pobalscoil Rosmini, 2 of whom are residential and 20 Lifelong Learning students.

From our main campus, 96 students have access to an O&M specialist with 78 students availing of O&M on a weekly basis. There were 702 sessions from January to March and 1,248 sessions from September to December, totalling 1,950 sessions.

From Early Years To Lifelong Learning, O&M helps provide visually impaired children with the important skills they need to travel independently and to understand the sounds and sensory information from the world around them. It gives all students who can benefit, the chance to enhance the quality and quantity of their social interactions. Performing daily activities like going to parks and playgrounds where they are able to interact with others and develop interpersonal relations become possible as a result of successful intervention from a multidisciplinary team.

- 21 students receive weekly training learning how to access public transport.
- 35 students (21 LL1 & LL2, 14 Primary) navigating their way around a supermarket.
- 12 students now independently travelling home by train and to work placement from residential houses.

Every student's ability to move around their environment is very important and inability to do so may affect them psychologically, socially, emotionally, economically and physically.

O&M is a very personal journey. Every student has different goals and different abilities. It is as exciting to sign off a student's ability to travel home independently on a bus as it is to see a student with MDVI finally access a ramp independently. There are 17 wheelchair users in primary school and 3 in LL1 who access O&M. The sessions they participate in include sensory walks, and they encourage them to manoeuvre their chair independently, locating the sound of the auditory crossing at the traffic light and even just crawling and playing with balls in the PE Hall. Every form of movement is considered mobility. Thirty-four new canes were distributed over the year to students across campus. In line with their needs, these included long canes and symbol canes for use within the community.

The O&M team attend the annual online International Mobility Symposium where they engage with fellow O&M specialists worldwide, learning new techniques, listening to other people's experiences and generally upskilling within our area. Each year the team deliver O&M presentation on the basics of orientation and mobility to external professionals, parents and anyone interesting in learning more about our profession through National Network Services. In 2020 we had eight attendees at this presentation, which was delivered on campus pre Covid-19. A basic introduction to O&M training is also provided to new members of staff, of which there were 15 in 2020.

The O&M team signed up for a Clarity subscription – this is a US-based digital resource that is updated each month with materials that enable us to quickly create effective lessons and increase our students' O&M skills.

Since the O&M team started using the specially designed transformation pod in ChildVision with the students, there have been noticeable changes in students' mobility, muscle strength and gait, and their pace has also improved. We plan to offer use of the transformation pod to some of the suitable primary school students in the future. Currently 20 students use the transformation pod on a weekly basis. Over the course of 2020, 360 sessions were provided to students from a dedicated O&M specialist.

Education Services (continued)

Covid-19: response of the O&M team

O&M initially appeared a difficult subject to teach in front of a computer as by nature it involves exploring the world; however, the O&M team adapted and discovered new ways to support our students virtually. The following are some of the initiatives we took:

- 10 videos demonstrating pre-cane skills and different mobility techniques were created and distributed to 53 families to enable them to support their child at home.
- Live weekly video sessions were held with 3 residential students, totaling 39 video sessions over 13 weeks.
- Weekly telephone sessions were held with 8 residential students, totaling 104 phone calls.
- Weekly recorded video sessions were created for 2 residential students so they could visualise the routes on campus they were working on pre-Covid-19 and so continue their programme virtually – total of 26 recorded video sessions.
- 2 audio quizzes illustrating different environmental sounds were created and distributed to 53 families.
- 6 documents with ideas for different games and scavenger hunts were developed and distributed to 53 families.
- A Covid-19 protocol was developed before the return to on-campus training, and this was distributed to 7 teachers and 21 special needs assistants in primary school.
- June 2020 provided the opportunity for one specialist to engage in weekly sessions with 4 primary school children from a social distance (in parks). In doing so, the specialist engaged with families on a one-to-one basis, focusing directly on the child's individual needs – 16 such sessions took place.

Term-time Living

Term-time Living is a ChildVision residential service that operates from Sunday evening to Friday evening during school term times in our five residential houses. It gives residents, who range in age from 10 to 23, the chance to develop independent living skills. Residents return home to their families at weekends and school holidays.

Our young people and social care team in Term-time Living had a year like no other and their resilience was put to the test; but together we learned new skills, new ways of working and new methods for staying in touch. Even serious activities like supporting students to make the right third-level choices or to prepare for the Leaving Certificate benefitted from a healthy dose of online humour, while we tried to replicate the warmth and happiness of our residential houses via often dodgy internet connections

up and down the country. So here are just some of these highlights, pre-lockdown, in lockdown and post-lockdown efforts to replicate the warmth of the year:

- ... the trip to hear Christy Moore sing his heart out in concert and how for one young person, in particular, it meant overcoming so much debilitating anxiety just to get there, and the careful, considered, months-long plan social care staff put in place to ensure success.
- ... the student who felt compelled to drop out of school but was supported through a home programme delivered by social care colleagues until ready to return to a full-time secondary school placement, in which the student is now excelling.
- ... the successful integration into one of the houses of two non-English speaking students and the inventiveness of staff in forging effective communication pathways to ensure their inclusion in the life of the house.
- ...and then Covid-19 took hold. Lockdown left us reeling at first, adrift from the familiar, shut in and shut out. Finding meaningful ways to stay connected and to encourage all our residential young people to keep cheerful was, at first, a challenge. But creativity and the need for connection quickly reasserted the central team priority – to be there for our young people, regardless. Together we had Zoom quizzes, fancy dress parties, yoga sessions, mindfulness classes, cookery sessions, self-care inputs, judo demonstrations and walking challenges that started off to cover the distance from Cork to Dublin and ended with us marching from Cork to Belfast and then back to Cork; there were sessions supporting young people to stay current with school work and there were continuing inputs around helping our young people deal with the distress and anxiety Covid-19 evokes; in all around a thousand hours of online and telephone connection.
- ... and then there were the care packages, dozens of individualised gift parcels lovingly put together by social care staff including everything from books to Easter eggs to plant seeds to knitting sets, all meant to surprise and delight and encourage.
- ... in the midst of all this activity, the HSE reached out to us to provide day respite for two young people who were in distress because their usual placements had closed and their families were under extreme stress. This was new territory for our social care and tutoring teams, but colleagues were eager to help, using their skills to provide a very effective emergency intervention for these young people over a number of months.

- ... as the crisis deepened what became increasingly clear too, during the first lockdown, was the extent to which a number of our residential young people needed us to offer personal contact, requiring us to be very creative about how to offer physical outreach in safe and appropriate ways. Some examples here: the 90 hours of direct social care involvement delivered to one young person which provided emotional support and reassurance while trekking through scenic forest parks and along local beaches; the 450 hours of day respite delivered to three others of our young people in one house and a 100+ hours in another to a single young person; and theirs and their families' pleasure that they could at least partially return to their familiar ChildVision home; the four-hour weekly round trip – with the car windows down in winter – to meet one young person's need to be in ChildVision despite the fear of travelling on public transport; the smaller but no less wonderful audio recording made just for one student who wanted to hear his bedroom door opening and closing and staff footsteps on the stairs.
- ... and then as the residential service started to properly open up again, the hard decisions around pods and bubbles and safety protocols and partial returns and (for our secondary students) full returns and keeping strong connections with those few who, understandably, didn't yet feel they could return. Although it was a difficult year, it was a year where new challenges were faced and overcome, with a lot of learning and pride among our young people.



National Network Services

52

Virtual webinars for our community of families throughout the country



30

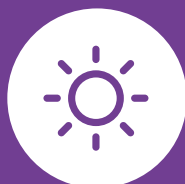
Sensory stories posted on our Facebook profile



Online summer camp:

44

Young people from all over Ireland took part in our week-long camp for our young people and their siblings



30

Outreach home visits of support and service delivery during public health crisis



120

Personalised sensory learning packs posted to students



Family services and outreach

Our National Network services were disproportionately affected by the pandemic in comparison to our other services. This work consists of face-to-face, on-site events, run by a small team of two people. Despite the challenges of Covid-19, we achieved a lot in 2020.

Of the 36 events planned for 2020, 25 took place virtually, and with the support of ChildVision's IT and Communications team all events were promoted successfully on social media.

We worked closely with Social Care Ireland to run a series of webinars on The Power of Language Trauma, informed care with Dr Karen Triesman and Parenting and attachment theory with Joanna Fortune.

We built on our strong relationship working with Sight and Sound Technology to roll out a bi-weekly programme via Zoom to all students, parents and families. Over time, this work went from strength to strength with workshops such as *Creating a safe and accessible meeting space for all*.

Another popular event was the 'How to assess for Autism Spectrum Disorder in the Visually Impaired population' presented by Sinead Fitzpatrick (Senior Speech and Language Therapist) and Audrey Darby (Occupational Therapy Manager) both from ChildVision, hosting upwards of 200 participants. With the roll-out of the Family Resource Events Calendar for 2020 there continued to be a focus on relevant output strengthening partnerships with other service providers, families and allied health professionals.

Our Virtual Summer Programme 2020 was open to siblings too and we were delighted to have Kelly Harrington (boxer) and Michael Darragh McCauley (Dublin GAA all-star) to introduce and welcome all participants to the camp experience. The involvement of NGOs such as Tennis Ireland, Vision Sports, the FAI and Park Run took place, although their presentations were pre-recorded and presented virtually.

Last year, 2020, marked the 20th Anniversary of ChildVision's valued association with Space Camp at Huntsville, Alabama USA and we enjoyed a virtual experience with schools for the blind across the globe.



National Network Services (continued)

As it was our objective to continue to engage with our students and families via calendar events we developed a varied programme of events with engaging facilitators covering the areas of assistive technology, art therapy, parenting through attachment theory and the importance of play.

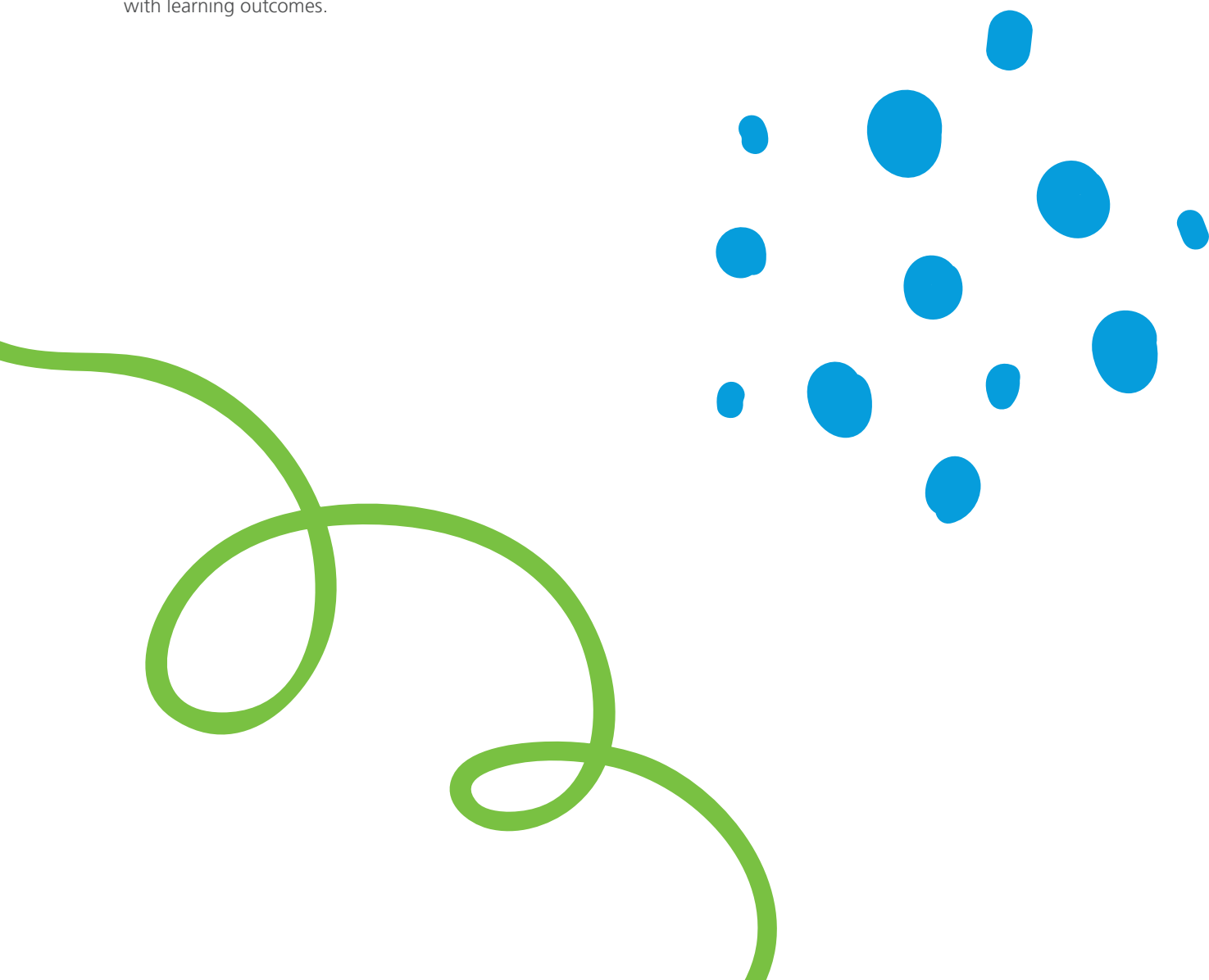
Outreach activities

Outreach extended to all families and students who responded to the invitation and upwards of 30 received outreach support face to face, via Zoom or telephone – in line with Covid-19 government guidelines.

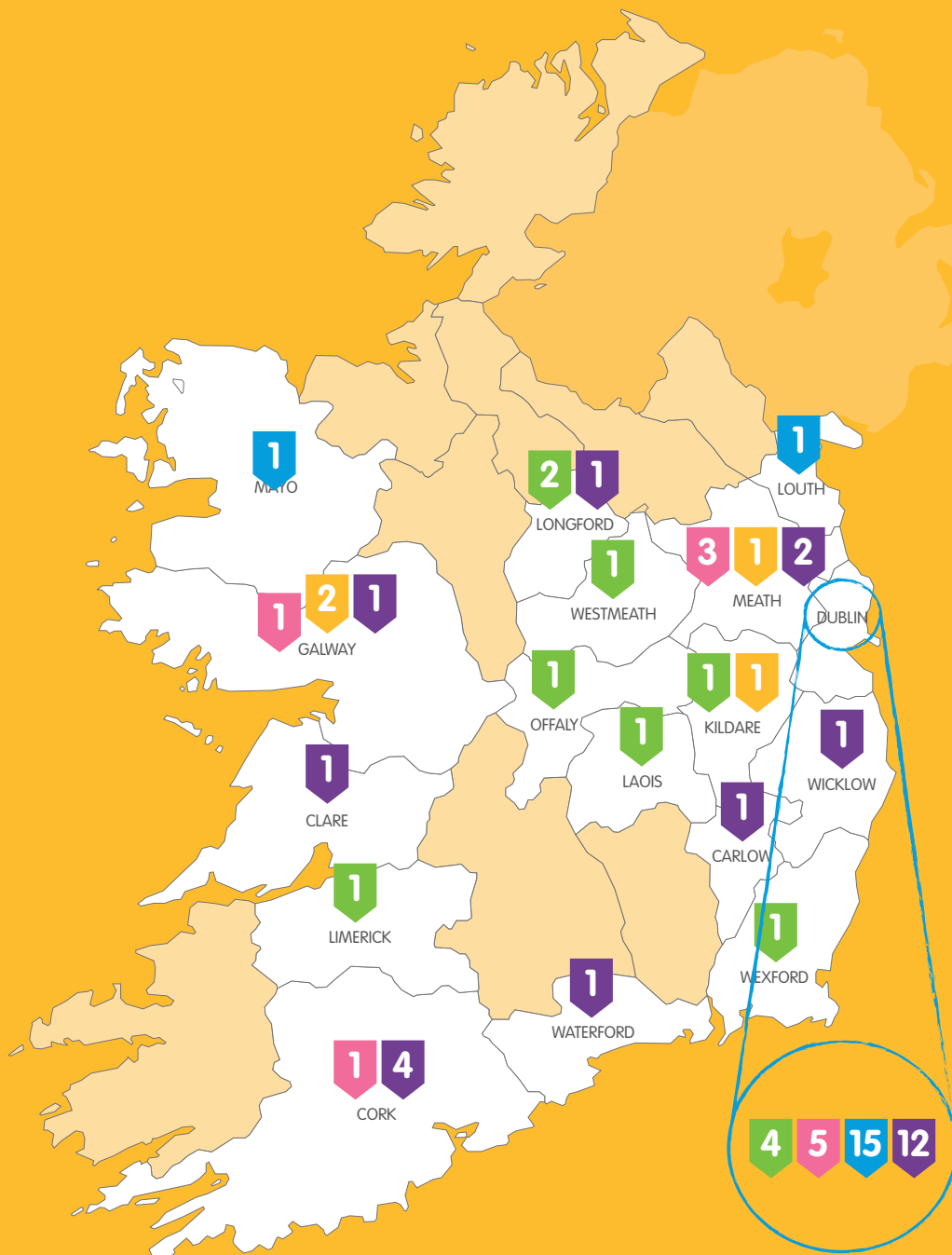
A comprehensive programme was rolled out with priority given to the most complex students. This consisted of a blend of home visits, telephone interaction, as well as Zoom and Moodle meetings. We explored new methods of output which arose from the development of these outreach programmes – from checking-in to actual engagement and roll-out of programmes, from socialisation and telephone skills to orientation and mobility, daily living and communication. Each engagement entailed an outline plan with learning outcomes.

Assessments

Sixty-six assessments were carried out in 2020, and the students prioritised were those who were potential students for ChildVision's Lifelong Learning Programme (Early Years) and those due to commence the programme in 2021.



Assessment Type & County of Origin 2020



Multidisciplinary Assessment

11 people



Autism Observation Schedule (ADOS)

4 people



Early Years Assessment

10 people



Internal Review Assessments

24 people



Functional Vision Assessment

17 people



What our parents had to say during the lockdown

ChildVision closed for the first six weeks of lockdown but it was a sudden, sharp shock for our young people, their families and our staff. Nobody knew what was to come. We switched all our services online. A parents survey was sent out to ascertain levels of broadband and IT accessibility, were we providing enough and what parents would like more of, we would like to share some of the heart-warming messages that came back to us through the survey and reflect the hard work of our staff and the ethos of their work;

I feel in the difficult circumstances we are in, ChildVision are doing very well to keep linked in with families and offer continued support.

We miss the amazing work the team do to help our daughter have a full life. Equine therapy and swimming in particular but it's more about the general sense of belonging to the ChildVision family.

My son has had the pleasure of being involved with Childvision for over 15 years. They have always put the students first. We are in uncertain times. But I when he goes back it will be safe to do so. A fantastic service!

Our little girl misses being around other children, the routine of the preschool work. Her teachers! She keeps asking me 'Mum tomorrow maybe you take me to ChildVision again?'.

Since our son started in a ChildVision we have found the teachers and staff to be brilliant with our son and amazing supports and resources to us as parents. He has progressed so much under your care and we miss you all very much!

It is such a wonderful place, attending Childvision has given our daughter so much confidence. I miss the people at our group (children, teachers & parents). We always leave happy.



Report of the directors

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

1. Objectives and activities of ChildVision

ChildVision was established to provide care and education, through comprehensive and high quality services provided within a Christian ethos, for children and young adults who are visually impaired.

ChildVision is a registered charity and operates as a not-for-profit organisation in partnership with the Health Service Executive and the Department of Education.

The national services we provide in our Centre for multiple disabled and visually impaired (MDVI) children and young people include pre-school and early intervention services, family resource services, primary and secondary schooling supports, vocational training, residential services, therapy services, nursing and ophthalmic services, professional training, a National Braille Production service and a children's library.

1.1 The vision

Our vision is to provide a supportive and inclusive learning community where disability does not create a barrier to the fulfilment of aspiration or ambition.

1.2 The mission

ChildVision is Ireland's only dedicated centre for children and young people with a visual impairment, some of whom have profound sensory impairments and additional disabilities. ChildVision, located on a site in Drumcondra that has been dedicated to the care of the blind in Ireland since the 1850s, provides a national resource for families and professionals who need expert help in the area of visual impairment or visual impairment and additional disabilities. We also operate a satellite service from our Cork centre. Our work is divided into four different areas: Education, Clinical, National Networks and Reading Services, which together providing a full range of supports for children and young people from birth to 23 years. We are a registered charity and operate as a not for-profit organisation in partnership with the Health Service Executive as a Section 39 provider, part funded, and the Department of Education. We rely on the kind support of donors to fund much of the work that we do.

1.3 ChildVision's focus and objectives

The focus of ChildVision's work is to advance the education and care of children and adults with visual impairments and/or multiple disabilities, throughout Ireland and within a Christian ethos; and to provide specialist education and training to professionals and parents working or living with people with visual impairments and/or multiple disabilities. This focus is represented by the following seven detailed objectives.

Objective 1. To provide preschool and early intervention services

Objective 2. To provide primary and secondary education supports, including a special curriculum for pupils with a visual impairment

Objective 3. To provide assessment and therapies, including occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, mobility training and nursing

Objective 4. To provide lifelong learning to meet the particular needs of young adults with a visual impairment

Objective 5. To provide residential services

Objective 6. To create educational aids and technologies including formats in Braille, large print and digital formats; to produce textbooks in Braille, large print, and alternative formats (for primary and secondary level students)

Objective 7. To offer training and development opportunities for those who are visually impaired, and for those working with the visually impaired.

1.4 ChildVision's values

Person-centred inclusivity

Delivering a person-centred, inclusive service that embraces diversity and encourages participation.

Professionalism

Professional and critical practice at all times.

Transparency and accountability

Transparent and accountable decision making made in consultation with stakeholders.

Safety and integrity

Integrity of care and utmost safety are the pillars of all our interactions with our young people.

Valuing uniqueness

Valuing the unique attributes of each child and young person.

2. Structure, governance and management

2.1 Legal status

ChildVision is a public benefit entity, and was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 21 February 2008. ChildVision provides educational opportunities for Ireland's blind and partially sighted children and young adults in a safe and nurturing environment.

Through varied education programmes, our highly trained and committed staff ensure that all students are treated as individuals and brought on their own individual journey of learning so that they can become independent, happy and resourceful members of their communities.

ChildVision is the registered company name and is recognised as a charity by the Revenue Commissioners.

Company Number	453711
Registered Charity Number	CHY 817
Charity Number (Charity Regulatory Authority)	20001278
How the charity is governed	Constitution

2.2 Governance

ChildVision has seven company members, who are nominated by the Institute of Charity (Rosminians) and are responsible for appointing a Board of Directors. The members meet annually to receive and consider the annual report and audited financial statements of ChildVision. Other meetings take place as required.

The Board of Directors is responsible for the affairs of ChildVision and reports to the members of the company. The objective of the Board of Directors is to ensure that ChildVision serves the needs of children who attend our service. Each director may serve up to two consecutive terms of three years. Board members undergo an induction programme to ensure that collectively they have the overview necessary for the proper governance of the organisation. Further training for board members is arranged as and when required. ChildVision's directors bring to the organisation a variety of experience in areas such as education, health, social care, business, legal matters and finance, and include directors who are ex-students of the organisation.

A list of the directors who served at any time during the financial year and since the year end are listed on page 61. It is with great sadness that we note the death of one of our directors, Gareth Jones. Gareth passed away on 9 January 2021. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. We would like to acknowledge and thank Gareth for his dedication and contribution to the company.

Subcommittees of the Board

The Board of Directors has five subcommittees.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is responsible for all matters relating to the financial affairs of ChildVision and provides the Board with an independent review of the budgetary process. Its defined responsibilities include:

- Monitoring and reviewing the accuracy and integrity of ChildVision's financial statements (annual and monthly), and reviewing operational and capital budgets prior to approval by the Board of Directors.
- Assisting the Board in areas relating to strategic financial planning to include: raising, collection, investment, borrowing and outlay of all monies to fund the company's activities.
- Ensuring that effective systems, financial controls and procedures are in place and that proper records are maintained.

Audit and Compliance Committee

The Audit and Compliance Committee is responsible for monitoring the audit and compliance obligations of ChildVision. Its responsibilities include:

- Overview of the risk management framework surrounding strategy, operations, including child welfare, finance and compliance.
- Ensuring that effective systems, financial controls and procedures are in place.
- Ensuring that appropriate arrangements are in place to facilitate the making and investigation of whistleblowing complaints.
- Overview of the annual service level agreement with the Health Service Executive and the related compliance statement provided by the directors.
- Overseeing both internal and external audits.

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee takes the lead role in shaping the governance of ChildVision. It provides a review of the organisation's legal and regulatory responsibilities, ensures oversight of policies and procedures, and is responsible

Report of the directors (continued)

for Board recruitment and training. The Committee's core responsibilities are:

- Managing ChildVision's Governance Policy – which entails monitoring the integrity of the statements of compliance with the Code of Practice for Good Governance of Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations and other such codes of practice required by legislation and regulatory authorities.
- Reviewing the adequacy of the internal governance controls and risk management systems – in particular those relating to governance matters.

Development Committee

The primary responsibility of the Development Committee is facilities management – to ensure the provision of suitable premises/location for the children who avail of the services at ChildVision.

Quality and Assurance Committee

The Quality and Assurance Committee has been established by the Board of Directors to assist the Board in fulfilling its governance obligations for quality and safety and to help ensure that service users receive the care they need in a safe, nurturing, open and just environment in which there is corporate accountability for service performance.

Child protection

ChildVision has a comprehensive child/vulnerable adult protection policy and is committed to protecting the rights and dignity of children and young adults, in particular those who avail of our services in whatever capacity. The key principle is that the welfare of the child is paramount, meaning that a culture of listening to young people and a culture of respect and vigilance are central to how we work. We underpin this by ensuring that appropriate training policies and reporting procedures are in place to address any complaints, concerns and allegations that arise.

All staff who work directly with young people receive Children First training. In addition, in conformity with Health Service Executive guidance, ChildVision has designed and implemented its own in-house training specific to the protection needs of visually impaired young people, including the needs of those with additional disabilities. There is a designated liaison person for child protection/vulnerable adult protection and a designated deputy liaison person operating at senior management level to ensure compliance with the State's reporting requirements in respect of any concerns for the protection or welfare of a child or vulnerable adult. In addition, young people in ChildVision's residential service have access to an external monitor in case any issue or complaint arises that they do not wish to bring directly to the attention of ChildVision staff.

Overall accountability for ensuring that ChildVision is implementing appropriate child protection and safeguarding measures lies with the Board of Directors, who ensure that organisational policies and procedures are in place and are in line with national guidelines. ChildVision's CEO and senior management team are responsible for ensuring that the policies and procedures are promulgated and implemented in an open, accessible manner, that they are regularly reviewed and updated as required, and that training in this area remains current for all staff.

2.3 Compliance statement

The Governance Code for Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations in Ireland.

We commit to all donors that we operate to and adhere to, the highest levels of governance, transparency and accountability. We have adopted the Charities Governance Code. We are fully compliant with Guidelines for Charitable Organisations on Fundraising from the Public.

We have adopted the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We comply with the Charities Act and are registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA), Ireland's national statutory regulatory agency for charitable organisations.

ChildVision is a registered provider of disability service under the purview of HIQA. We operate in compliance with the Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons with Disabilities Regulations 2013). The centre's IDs are 0002091, 0002092, 0002093, 0002094 and 0002095.

3. Activity during 2020

ChildVision provides programmes under four main service delivery categories; Clinical, Education, National Networks and Reading Services. These service categories provide a range of specialist therapeutic intervention, education programmes, term-time living, training and outreach, and text book transcription services for children and young people experiencing vision impairment and complex disabilities throughout Ireland.

The organisation helps families find new pathways and, with the guidance of our expert staff, helps families see the potential for each child and young person with a visual impairment and complex disabilities.

The main campus is situated in Drumcondra with a satellite centre in the south of the country in Cork, and the organisation has a staff of 140. There were only 18 volunteers on campus last year working across equine therapy, the garden centre, Lifelong Learning and Reading Services as our campus was closed to the public and volunteers due to public health guidelines. The Board of

Directors of ChildVision is very grateful to all staff and volunteers for their continued hard work and commitment to ChildVision and their efforts over the last year.

Throughout 2020 the Covid-19 pandemic presented challenges for students and staff. However, services were only closed for an initial six-week lockdown period and reopened with a different but equally impactful service delivery model. All non-service delivery staff worked remotely and continue to do so to prevent infection and protect the vulnerable people in our care. Staff engagement and productivity amongst this group has been high, with a staff development group maintaining a rolling programme of events to engage and motivate. For staff on site, the Covid-19 Management Group implemented all necessary infrastructural changes to the campus in early April and continually updated the all-staff Covid-19 training module which is accessible on the ChildVision e-learning Moodle platform.

Through a survey conducted and personal contact and feedback, all families reported high levels of satisfaction with ChildVision's response to service delivery during the six-week lockdown and delivery modifications as required by health advice post lockdown.

ChildVision is in year three of a five-year strategy focused on developing the campus for future needs of an increasing number of children and young people with vision impairment and complex disabilities. During 2020 capital funding was secured through our fundraising department towards the capital plan development and, also delivered significant foundation funding for a new Client Relationship Management fundraising platform and campus-wide client management system. This gift will further support impact reporting and fundraising targets to deliver on 'appropriate settings' in which to 'deliver timely, measurable outcomes and improve the lives of these young people,' as set out in our current strategy statement (Adapt to Grow, 2018).

Despite the ongoing impact of Covid-19, the Board is optimistic as it looks to the performance of the organisation in 2021 with renewed focus on the key objectives of the strategy:

- To deliver the best possible service in a prompt and attentive manner.
- To support friendships and relationships within a person-centred ethos and campus.
- To improve the outcomes for young people with a visual impairment and multiple disabilities.
- To focus on the growth, sustainability and innovation of our service delivery.
- To engage, develop and value our people.

See the Overview of ChildVision Service Activities in 2020 beginning on page 5.

4. Review of the year

4.1 Income and expenditure

Income

ChildVision is financed by a mix of state and voluntary funding. In 2020, ChildVision raised a total income of €7,380,584 (2019 €7,333,784) for charitable purposes, an increase of €46,800. This result was achieved despite a backdrop of the Covid-19 epidemic throughout the year. The income was generated through three main sources:

- Government funding, primarily allocated through the Health Service Executive and the Department of Education which accounted for 83% which increased in 2020 by €207,403. The increase was principally because increased grant amounts received in 2020 in relation to pay restoration and contribution towards some capital spending
- fundraising activity (€810,971 up 4% on 2019) and
- the balance from on-campus social enterprises and rental income (€388,197 down by 30 per cent on 2019 – primarily due to the effect of the COVID - 19 pandemic).

We are always grateful and amazed by the generosity of our donors for all their contributions. We would like to thank them for their continued support during the year.

Expenditure

Financial statements analyse expenditure between charitable activities (provision of services in ChildVision) and the cost of raising funds. Total expenditure for 2020 was €7,332,783 (2019 €7,469,616). This represents a decrease of €136,833. The main underlying reasons for the decrease in expenditure relate to reduced costs due to closure of the campus for part of the year due to Covid-19.

Our charitable activities accounted for 88 per cent of all expenditure (87 per cent in 2019).

Capital expenditure during the year included:

- Changes to the campus in order to be in line with Covid-19 recommendations of safety.
- IT/assistive technology equipment.

ChildVision would like to acknowledge donations received via our corporate partners without which many pieces of vital equipment could not have been purchased.

Report of the directors (continued)

4.2 Investment and reserves policy

ChildVision's policy is to maintain a prudent level of reserves to enable us to manage financial risk, to deliver on our commitments and to achieve our objectives.

At the end of 2020, ChildVision had funds of €2,423,590 (2019, €2,375,789). Of this, €574,520 (2019, €250,865) is held for restricted purposes, as the funds were donated for specific projects or services.

At 31 December 2020, the unrestricted funds amounted to €1,849,070 (2019, €2,124,924). The directors have set a target that cash reserves are sufficient to provide for one month of expenditure, and will continue to monitor this target given the financial position of the company. For prudential purposes, the Board has decided to keep cash reserves in bank deposit accounts and not to make any other form of investment. As deposit rates are at an all-time low the yield is expected to be below inflation.

5. Risk management

The directors have responsibility for, and are aware of, the risks associated with the operating activities of ChildVision. The directors have identified that ChildVision operates within a high overall risk range because of the nature of our clients. The directors have taken the decision that ChildVision has a low appetite for risk. This means that while acknowledging our legal obligations, we will give priority to reducing to reasonably practicable levels the risks originating from the delivery of services to children and to the public.

ChildVision's Board, and its sub-committees in conjunction with senior management, will ensure that risk management is:

- An integral and ongoing part of its management process.
- As simple and straightforward as possible.

The key mechanisms that we rely on to assist us in fulfilling these responsibilities include:

- Properly functioning internal control systems that ensure efficient and effective use of ChildVision's financial resources, that safeguard its assets, and that maintain the integrity of the financial information produced.
- Access by senior management and staff in ChildVision to Board members, individually or collectively, to discuss matters of concern to the charity's efficient and effective operation.

Risk Management Monitoring is achieved by the Board of Directors setting the risk appetite, risk policy and a risk register that identifies risks to the organisation. Management of risk is delegated down to senior managers

and the Board reviews the risk register at each board meeting.

The key risks associated in providing services at ChildVision are:

- Inherent infrastructural defects of the building.
- Potential reduction in funding either from the State or fundraising income.
- Vulnerable nature of our clients.
- Ongoing risks in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.

6. Principal risks and uncertainties

In the first half of 2020, the outbreak of Covid-19 spread throughout Asia, Europe and worldwide. The impact of this has been severe and has resulted in a significant worldwide slowdown in economic activity. In Ireland, the economic impact of this pandemic has been characterised by the temporary closure of many businesses in 'non-essential' areas to ensure that people's movements are restricted in order to slow down the spread of the virus. The continued effect of Covid-19 presents many risks for the company, the effects of which cannot be fully quantified at the time of approving the financial statements. As a result, the directors consider the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic to be a significant uncertainty at the time of approving the financial statements.

The directors believe that the main risks associated with Covid-19 are as follows:

- A continued weakness in social enterprises trading activity during the periods of restricted activity due to Covid-19 restrictions
- Our continued ability to maintain current levels of fundraising due to the widespread reduction in economic activity.

7. Taxation status

ChildVision has been granted charitable status under sections 207 and 208 of the Taxes Consolidated Act 1997.

8. Events after the year end

As mentioned in Principal risks and uncertainties above, in the first half of 2020, the Covid-19 virus spread worldwide. In the first half of 2021, the Covid-19 restrictions introduced in 2020 have remained and have continued to effect operations of ChildVision. The restrictions continued to have a negative impact on social enterprises trading since the year end and has resulted in lower than expected income from these activities.

The directors are not expecting to make any significant changes in the nature of the business in the near future. At the time of approving the financial statements, the company continues to be exposed to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic which has had a negative effect on its social enterprises income activities since the year end and has resulted in a lower than expected level of trading activity since the year end. In planning its future activities, the directors will seek to develop the company's activities while managing the effects of the difficult trading period caused by the pandemic.

9. Lobbying and political donations

There were no political donations in 2019 and 2020, and as a result no disclosures are required under the Electoral Act, 1997.

As required under the Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015, ChildVision now records all lobbying activity and communications with Designated Public Officials (DPOs). It has made the returns and submissions required by the Act.

10. Accounting records

To ensure that proper books and accounting records are kept in accordance with Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, the directors have engaged appropriately qualified accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate computerised accounting systems. The company's accounting records are located at the company's premises at Gracepark Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9.

11. Plans for the future

During 2019 we sought tenders for a capital philanthropy campaign, while still applying pressure on the Health Service Executive and at Government level for the first element of our approved capital funding to be released. We also submitted an application to the INIS Immigrant Investor Programme (IIP) for a capital grant. We have received €1.6 million IIP funds as of 31 December 2020, with more expected in 2021. We are seeking to expand our capital philanthropy campaign and have applied for planning permission to significantly develop and improve our campus to make it truly fit for purpose for our service users.

We have continued to grow our services using existing resources and continue to cultivate networks and relationships across the sector seeking to provide our services to as many visually impaired children and young people as possible. We also continue to focus and value our people's skills and have enabled quality professional training and accreditation throughout 2020 ensuring we are ready for the constantly changing needs of our student cohort.

12. Disclosure of information to auditors

All of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' Report is approved have confirmed that, as far as they are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- They have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as directors in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and the director's have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as directors in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

13. Auditors

Crowe Ireland are eligible and have expressed their willingness to continue in office as our auditors in accordance with Section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.



Shane Cowley



Maureen Mulligan

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS
3 June 2021

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing this Annual Report and the accompanying financial statements in accordance with Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including FRS 102 – the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland as promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 (effective 1 January 2019).

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 assets, liabilities and financial position of the company for the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:


- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors confirm that they comply with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. 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. The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the company's website.



Shane Cowley



Maureen Mulligan

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS
3 June 2021

Independent auditors' report to the Board of Directors of ChildVision CLG

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ChildVision CLG for the year ended 31 December 2020, which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the Notes to the Financial Statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' effective 1 January 2019.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its net movement in funds for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' effective 1 January 2019;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' 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 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 directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion, the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Independent auditors' report to the Board of Directors of ChildVision CLG (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Respective responsibilities

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors 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 directors 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 directors are responsible for assessing the 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 management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

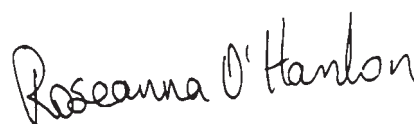
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA's website at: [https://www.iaasa.ie/Publications/ISA-700-\(Ireland\)](https://www.iaasa.ie/Publications/ISA-700-(Ireland)). The description forms part of our Auditors' report.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 company and the company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by:



Roseanna O'Hanlon

For and on behalf of:



Crowe Ireland

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm Marine House Clanwilliam Court, Dublin 2

3 June 2021

Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds €	Restricted funds €	Total 2020 €	As restated Unrestricted funds €	As restated Restricted funds €	As restated Total 2019 €
Income and endowments from							
Donations and legacies	4	455,876	210,137	666,013	499,910	138,816	638,726
Other trading activities	5	533,155	-	533,155	700,898	-	700,898
Charitable activities	6	2,663	6,178,646	6,181,309	3,315	5,990,725	5,994,040
Investment	7	107	-	107	120	-	120
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		991,801	6,388,783	7,380,584	1,204,243	6,129,541	7,333,784
Expenditure on							
Charitable activities	9	395,595	6,065,128	6,460,723	457,738	6,032,971	6,490,709
Raising funds	10	872,060	-	872,060	976,794	-	976,794
Other expenditure	12	-	-	-	1,816	297	2,113
TOTAL		1,267,655	6,065,128	7,332,783	1,436,348	6,033,268	7,469,616
NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS		(275,854)	323,655	47,801	(232,105)	96,273	(135,832)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		-	-	-	2,368,433	306,099	2,674,532
PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENT	31	-	-	-	(11,104)	(151,507)	(162,911)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD (as restated)	25/26	2,124,924	250,865	2,375,789	2,357,029	154,592	2,511,621
TOTAL FUND CARRIED FORWARD	25/26	1,849,070	574,520	2,423,590	2,124,924	250,865	2,375,789

All income and expenditure arises from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 46-60 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2020

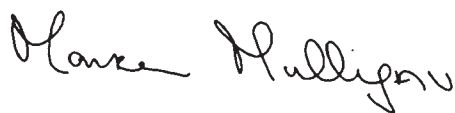
	Notes	2020 €	as restated 2019 €
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	17	2,160,005	2,291,615
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	18	183,443	46,103
Stocks	19	3,357	2,224
Cash at bank and in hand	20	3,448,496	1,876,587
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		3,635,296	1,924,914
CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)	21	(2,284,211)	(715,340)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,351,085	1,209,574
CREDITORS (amounts falling due after one year)	22	(1,087,500)	(1,125,400)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		2,423,590	2,375,789
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted funds	25	1,849,070	2,124,924
Restricted funds	26	574,520	250,865
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		2,423,590	2,375,789

The notes on pages 46-60 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 3 June 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Shane Cowley



Maureen Mulligan

Cashflow Statement

as at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 €	2019 €
NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	28	1,795,745	354,116
NET CASH GENERATED FROM/(USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	28	54	(736)
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES	28	(227,830)	(282,998)
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD	29	1,567,969	70,382
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	29	1,876,521	1,806,139
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	29	3,444,490	1,876,521

The notes on pages 46-60 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. General information

ChildVision CLG, a company limited by guarantee (Company Number 453711), was established to provide care and education for children and adults who are visually impaired. The company's registered office is 75 St Stephens Green, Dublin 2.

2. Accounting policies

The following accounting policies are applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements:

2.1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland and Irish statute comprising of the Companies Act 2014 and in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) issued by the Charities Commissioner in the UK.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in applying the company's accounting policies (see note 3).

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

2.2 Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds received which can only be used for particular purposes specified by the donors and binding on the company. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the company.

2.3 Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are those which are expendable at the discretion of the company in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The company has long term obligations in respect of the provision of education and services to the visually impaired. If part of an unrestricted fund is earmarked for a particular project, it may be designated as a separate fund, but the designation has an administrative purpose only, and does not legally restrict the company's discretion to apply the fund.

2.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is entitled to the income and the amount can be measured with reasonable accuracy and is probable. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Grant and service income: Grant income from the Health Service Executive, the Department of Education and other sundry sources are credited when receivable to the Statement of Financial Activities. Expenditure and service-related grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities upon the recognition of the associated expense for which the grant was originally received.

Fundraising income: Fundraising income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which it is received by the company.

Trading and rental income: Income raised in the operation of the restaurant, equine centre, garden centre and rental income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Investment income: Income earned on funds held on deposit is treated as unrestricted income and is credited when earned.

2.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred and is recorded as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Cost of raising funds comprises of the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes. Expenditure on charitable activities are those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity. Where costs cannot be directly attributed, they have been allocated in proportion to estimated benefits received.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss. Cost includes all costs that are directly attributable to bringing the assets into working condition for its intended use.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value, of each asset systematically over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and machinery	33% Straight Line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	12.5% Straight Line
Renovations	10% Straight Line
Land and buildings	0% Straight Line
Motor vehicles	20% Straight Line

At each reporting date the company assesses whether there is any indication of impairment. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined which is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount.

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised within the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.7 Debtors

Debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

2.8 Stocks

Stocks comprise food and beverage stock and are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

2.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

2.10 Financial instruments

The company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable. Basic financial instruments are recorded at transaction price.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2020

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.11 Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price.

2.12 Foreign currency translation

Functional and presentation currency - The company's functional and presentational currency is euro.

Transactions and balances - Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions.

At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate. Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction and non-monetary items measured at fair value are measured using the exchange rate when fair value was determined.

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.13 Holiday pay accrual

A liability is recognised to the extent of any unused holiday pay entitlement which is accrued at the Balance Sheet date and carried forward to future periods. This is measured at the undiscounted salary cost of the future holiday entitlement and accrued at the Balance Sheet date.

2.14 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Pension benefits are funded over the employees' period of service by way of contributions from the company and from employees. Employer contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they become payable.

2.15 Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease.

2.16 Taxation

No charge to taxation arises as the company has been granted charitable status. Value added tax is recovered on the trading activities of the café, Garden Shop and public equine lessons. Irrecoverable value added tax is expensed as incurred.

2.17 Going concern

The directors have assessed whether there are any significant doubts regarding the company's ability to continue as a going concern and are unaware of any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

3. Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

Judgements and estimates are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

Establishing lives for depreciation purposes of property, plant and equipment.

Long-lived assets, consisting primarily of property, plant and equipment, comprise a significant portion of the total assets. The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these asset lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset lives can have a significant impact on depreciation and amortisation charges for the period. Details of the useful lives are included in the accounting policies.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2020 €	Restricted funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €	Unrestricted funds 2019 €	Restricted funds 2019 €	Total 2019 €
Donations	455,876	210,137	666,013	499,910	138,816	638,726

ChildVision generates fundraising income from a variety of sources, recurring individual donations, trusts and foundations and corporates in order to maintain its services. ChildVision has an active donor campaign to inform donors how monies are spent.

5. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2020 €	Unrestricted funds 2019 €
Income from commercial social enterprises	281,573	431,992
Fundraising campaigns and events	144,958	144,541
Rental income	106,624	124,365
	533,155	700,898

ChildVision operates a number of commercial social enterprises, Equine Therapy, Garden Centre, Charity Shop and Café, which enhance the provision of services to our service users and which provide additional income to the charity. For many of our students at ChildVision, taking part in our social enterprises activities forms a vital part of their education and training. ChildVision also organises events and fundraisers which are a valued additional source of funds. ChildVision received income from responses to a number of direct mail donor newsletters during 2020. Additionally, ChildVision received rental income from the Department of Education, and the Learning Tree Crèche which related to the renting of classrooms.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2020

6. Income from charitable activities

		Unrestricted funds 2020 €	Restricted funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €	Unrestricted funds 2019 €	Restricted funds 2019 €	Total 2019 €
	Notes						
Health Service Executive	(a)	-	4,779,165	4,779,165	-	4,571,762	4,571,762
Department of Education	(b)	-	1,325,867	1,325,867	-	1,325,904	1,325,904
Other performance grants	(c)	-	73,614	73,614	-	93,059	93,059
All other sources of income	(c)	2,663	-	2,663	3,315	-	3,315
		2,663	6,178,646	6,181,309	3,315	5,990,725	5,994,040

(a) ChildVision is a 'Section 39 organisation' and receives funding from Health Service Executive assistance towards a wide range of services including the provision of preschool, residential care, Lifelong Learning, therapeutic services and business supports.

(b) ChildVision received funding from the Department of Education. ChildVision is a national service which provides access to educational materials by transcriptions into a range of formats accessible for children with a visual impairment. The formats currently catered for are: Braille, tactile diagrams, MOON, large print, text-only files and DAISY books and our children's library.

(c) ChildVision generates income from other sources to supplement the provision of its primary services.

7. Investment

	Unrestricted funds 2020 €	Unrestricted funds 2019 €
Investment income	107	120
	107	120

8. Interest payable and similar charges

	Unrestricted funds 2020 €	Unrestricted funds 2019 €
On bank overdrafts	45	132
Lease finance charges and hire purchase interest	8	724
	53	856

9. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2020 €	Restricted funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €	as restated Unrestricted funds 2019 €	as restated Restricted funds 2019 €	as restated Total 2019 €
Provision of education and related services	182,957	4,097,096	4,280,053	223,268	4,094,853	4,318,121
Provision of residential services	-	151,215	151,215	2,929	164,388	167,317
All other services and charitable activities	157,140	1,816,817	1,973,957	180,845	1,773,730	1,954,575
Governance Costs (see note 11c)	55,498	-	55,498	50,696	-	50,696
	395,595	6,065,128	6,460,723	457,738	6,032,971	6,490,709

Of ChildVision's expenditure, 88 per cent is dedicated to charitable purposes. There are two large categories of expenditures

- i) Services directly related to children and young adults who are blind or partially sighted; and
- ii) Production of Braille books and alternative formats for primary and secondary education nationally.

ChildVision provides a pre-school, and residential, vocational, family resource and therapeutic services. The National Braille Production unit produces Braille book volumes, large print book volumes, text files, DAISY files. During 2020 the overall production was 6,831 compared to 5,824 in 2019.

10. Cost of raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2020 €	as restated Unrestricted funds 2019 €
Payroll costs of raising funds	256,781	393,502
Commercial enterprises	166,859	289,367
Other costs of raising funds	442,254	288,292
Governance Costs (see note 11c)	6,166	5,633
	872,060	976,794

Generation of funds accounts for approximately 12% of expenditure (2019: 13%). Costs are broken into costs of operating ChildVision social enterprises and direct fundraising costs. ChildVision operates an Equine Centre, a café and a garden centre.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2020

11. Support costs and allocation of expenditure

(a) Support costs

ChildVision's support services include Finance, Human Resources, ICT, Procurement, Administration, Training and Health & Safety. Costs are charged to each service and activity in proportion to direct staff numbers, which is considered to reflect estimated benefits received.

(b) Allocation of expenditure

	Charitable activities €	Cost of raising funds €	Governance costs €	Total expenditure €
Direct expenditure	5,382,496	706,785	41,243	6,130,524
Depreciation of fixed assets	312,565	-	-	312,565
Allocation of support costs	710,164	159,108	20,422	889,694
	6,405,225	865,893	61,665	7,332,783

(c) Governance costs

	Raising funds €	Charitable Activities €	2020 €	2019 €
Company secretarial services	1,159	10,431	11,590	9,022
External governance review	-	-	-	-
Wages and salaries	2,042	18,379	20,421	18,256
Internal audit	454	4,084	4,538	3,750
External audit	1,906	17,159	19,065	19,151
Pension audit	605	5,445	6,050	6,150
	6,166	55,498	61,664	56,329

The Board of Directors is voluntary and directors do not receive remuneration for their services as directors. Expenses directly incurred by the directors in carrying out their role are reimbursed, if claimed. There were no related party transactions with directors during the year.

Governance costs relate to the annual external, internal and pension audits, company secretarial services provided by L&P Trustee Services Limited and an allocation of wages incurred for governance purposes.

12. Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds 2020 €	Unrestricted funds 2019 €
Loss on Disposal of tangible assets	-	2,113

13. Net movement in funds

	2020 €	2019 €
Net movement in funds is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	312,565	338,825
Auditors' remuneration		
– Statutory audit	19,065	19,151
– Non audit services	-	-
Operating lease rentals – Buildings	120,200	115,200

14. Employees and staff costs

The average number of employees (full-time, part-time and hourly rated) during the year was 140 (145 in 2019).

The aggregate amounts paid to or on behalf of the staff are as follows:

	2020 €	as restated 2019 €
Wages and salaries	4,779,771	4,713,768
Social welfare costs	498,202	505,460
Pension costs	248,334	265,381
	5,526,307	5,484,609

The number of staff earning salaries over €60,000, and their pension contributions is:

Salary range	2020	2019	Employer Pension Contribution 2020 €	Employer Pension Contribution 2019 €
€60,001 - €70,000	3	3	13,511	13,927
€70,001 - €80,000	2	3	10,623	15,539
€80,001 - €90,000	1	1	5,878	5,612
€90,001 - €100,000	1	1	-	6,317
€100,001 - €110,000	-	-	-	-
€110,001 - €120,000	1	1	7,861	7,755

The CEO was paid a salary of €112,563 by ChildVision in the year.

Employer contributions of 7 per cent are made for all members of the ChildVision Pension Scheme.

Key management personnel

Key management personnel include the CEO and the senior management team for whom the total remuneration cost was €586,492 (2019: €638,353) in the year. Pension contributions were €33,913 (2019: €44,488).

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2020

15. Pension costs

Qualifying employees, who opt in, are members of the ChildVision Pension Scheme, which is a defined contribution scheme operated by the company. Employer contributions of 7 per cent of wages are made for all members of the scheme. The assets of the pension scheme are held separately from those of the company in independently administered funds. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to €248,334 (€264,421 in 2019).

16. Taxation

No charge to taxation arises as the company has been granted charitable exemption by the Revenue Commissioners.

17. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery €	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Motor vehicles €	Land & Buildings €	Renovations €	Total €
COST						
At 1 January 2020	346,853	1,558,017	340,463	1,218,450	672,979	4,136,762
Additions	72,838	30,747	1,271	45,920	30,179	180,955
At 31 December 2020	419,691	1,588,764	341,734	1,264,370	703,158	4,317,717
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 January 2020	279,491	1,064,048	281,491	-	220,117	1,845,147
Charge for the year	73,114	145,238	23,897	-	70,316	312,565
At 31 December 2020	352,605	1,209,286	305,388	-	290,433	2,157,712
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 December 2020	67,086	379,478	36,346	1,264,370	412,725	2,160,005
At 31 December 2019	67,362	493,969	58,972	1,218,450	452,862	2,291,615

In 2017 ChildVision purchased the freehold to its campus in Gracepark Road, Drumcondra. The directors consider the consideration paid relates to the acquisition of land and the buildings have a negligible value.

Included above are assets held under finance leases or hire purchase contracts as follows:

Asset description	Net book Value €	Depreciation charge €
Motor vehicles	5,730	5,730

18. Debtors

	2020 €	2019 €
Amounts owed by connected parties (note 30)	110,089	6,734
Other debtors	51,456	20,384
Prepayments	21,898	18,985
	183,443	46,103

19. Stocks

	2020 €	2019 €
Food and beverage stock	3,357	2,224

20. Cash and cash equivalents

	2020 €	2019 €
Cash in bank	3,448,496	1,876,587

21. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 €	<i>as restated</i> 2019 €
Bank overdraft	4,006	66
Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts (note 23)	403	15,332
Trade creditors	88,800	149,862
Accruals	408,442	376,952
Deferred income	1,600,000	8,891
Payroll taxes	131,767	102,374
Rosminians, Institute of Charity	37,500	46,875
Value added tax	13,293	14,988
	2,284,211	715,340

Deferred income represents endowments from IIP investors. This income is deferred until the relevant projects receive planning permission and commence.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2020

22. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2020 €	2019 €
Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts (note 23)	-	400
Loan Rosminians, Institute of Charity	1,087,500	1,125,000
	1,087,500	1,125,400

The movement in the Loan from the Rosminians was as follows:

	2020 €	2019 €
Opening balance	1,171,875	1,200,000
Loan repayments	(46,875)	(28,125)
	1,125,000	1,171,875

23. Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts

	2020 €	2019 €
Not later than one year	403	15,332
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	400
	403	15,732

24. Reconciliation of net assets

	Unrestricted funds €	Restricted funds €	Total funds €
Tangible assets	2,160,005	-	2,160,005
Current assets	1,460,776	2,174,520	3,635,296
Creditors	(1,771,711)	(1,600,000)	(3,371,711)
Net assets	1,849,070	574,520	2,423,590

25. Unrestricted funds

	Balance at beginning of year €	Incoming resources €	Resources expended €	Balance at end of year €
Unrestricted funds 2020	2,124,924	991,801	(1,267,655)	1,849,070
Unrestricted funds 2019 (as restated)	2,357,029	1,204,243	(1,436,348)	2,124,924

Unrestricted funds are funds that have been raised by ChildVision and which are expendable at the discretion of the company in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

26. Restricted funds

	Balance at beginning of year €	Incoming resources €	Resources expended €	Balance at end of year €
Restricted funds 2020	250,865	6,388,783	(6,065,128)	574,520
Restricted funds 2019 (as restated)	154,592	6,129,541	(6,033,268)	250,865

Restricted funds primarily reflect the donations for specific purposes which have not been spent at year end.

27. Details of borrowings

Maturity analysis	Within 1 year €	Between 1 & 2 years €	Between 2 & 5 years €	After 5 years €	Total €
REPAYABLE OTHER THAN BY INSTALMENTS					
Bank overdraft	4,006	-	-	-	4,006
REPAYABLE IN INSTALMENTS					
Net obligations under finance lease and hire purchase contracts	403	-	-	-	403
Loan Rosminians, Institute of Charity	37,500	37,500	112,500	937,500	1,125,000
At end of year	41,809	37,500	112,500	937,500	1,129,409

A loan for €1,200,000 was received from the Rosminians, Institute of Charity, in 2017.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2020

28. Cash flows

	2020 €	2019 €
Net cash generated from operating activities		
Net Movement of funds	47,801	(135,832)
Adjustments:		
Depreciation	312,565	338,825
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	2,113
Increase in stock	(1,133)	(1,224)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(137,340)	17,745
Increase in creditors	1,573,906	131,753
Interest receivable	(107)	(120)
Interest payable	53	856
	1,795,745	354,116
Net cash generated from/(used in) financing activities		
Interest received	107	120
Interest paid	(45)	(132)
Interest element of finance lease rental payments	(8)	(724)
	54	(736)
Net cash used in investing activities		
Payments to acquire tangible assets	(180,955)	(254,873)
Loan repayments	(46,875)	(28,125)
	(227,830)	(282,998)

29. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Opening balance €	Cash flows €	Other changes €	Closing balance €
Cash at bank and in hand	1,876,587	1,571,909	-	3,448,496
Overdrafts	(66)	(3,940)	-	(4,006)
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,876,521	1,567,969	-	3,444,090

30. Related party transactions

The residential houses that the company operates from are owned by the Irish Province of the Institute of Charity (IPIC), which is the ultimate controlling party. Rent was paid to the IPIC during the period amounting to €120,200 and €50,000 in pastoral services.

Included within Debtors is an amount due from MPC Learning Tree of €110,089. The Learning Tree shares common members with the company. MPC Learning Tree had a related party transaction of €192,626 during the year. The Learning Tree occupies rental space on the premises of ChildVision campus and the majority of related party transactions are associated with the payment of rent to ChildVision.

The company secretary, L&P Trustee Services Ltd, provided consultancy services to the company, on a commercial basis, during the period. The amount charged in respect of these services during the period was €11,638 (€9,022 in 2019).

31. Prior year adjustment

	Prior year 01/01/2019 €	Adjustment €	Prior year restated 01/01/2019	Adjustment €	Prior year restated 31/12/2019 €
Accruals	193,678	162,911	356,589	20,363	376,952
Unrestricted funds	2,137,754	(11,404)	2,126,350	(1,426)	2,124,924
Restricted funds	421,309	(151,507)	269,802	(18,937)	250,865

The comparative figures are restated to recognise an accumulation of a wages accrual at year end previously unprovided for. The effect of the adjustment is a reduction in the levels of unrestricted funds and restricted funds at 1 January 2019 by €12,830 and €170,444 respectively.

32. Commitments under operating leases

Leasing commitments on non-cancellable operating licence payable as set out below:

	2020 €	2019 €
Not later than one year	145,200	115,200
Later than one year and not later than five years	580,800	460,800

ChildVision operates one large value licence for the rental of residential properties from the Institute of Charity.

33. Capital commitments

The Board of Directors have approved capital commitments amounting to €330,700 for 2021 which are not provided in the financial statements. There is a level of uncertainty regarding an aspect of capital commitment due to timings of receiving external restricted funds and when work needs to be completed.

34. Company limited by guarantee

The company is one limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The liability of each member, in the event of the company being wound up, is €1.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2020

35. Going concern

Net movement of funds in the year was €47,801 and the company has net current assets of €1,351,085 and total net assets of €2,423,590 at the year end. The year 2020 saw the Covid-19 pandemic significantly affect the world economy and more particularly society and business in Ireland. There continues to be restrictions placed on “non-essential” businesses which has resulted in many businesses temporarily closing in measures designed to restrict the movement of people and to slow down the spread of the virus. These restrictions have continued to affect ChildVision.

ChildVision continues to operate, albeit in a somewhat curtailed manner, since the year end and has not seen a significant effect on its income. The directors have prepared budgets to the close of the year which show that the company can continue as a going concern. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

36. Post Balance Sheet events

In the first half of 2021, the Covid-19 restrictions introduced in 2020 have continued to affect operations of ChildVision. More recent easing of restrictions and the roll out of vaccines has eased operating conditions. However, this continues to have a negative impact on social enterprises trading since the year end and has resulted in lower than expected income from these activities.

It is the opinion of the directors that these are non-adjusting events.

37. Ultimate controlling party

ChildVision CLG is under the control of the members.

38. Approval of financial statements

The directors approved the financial statements on 3 June 2021.

Directors and other information

DIRECTORS

Shane Cowley (Chairman)
 Joseph O'Reilly
 Daniel Browne
 Michael O'Shea
 Michael Monaghan
 Marian Harte
 Michael O'Keeffe
 Maureen Mulligan
 Aine Myler (appointed 5 May 2020)
 Maureen Winston (appointed 5 May 2020)
 Ray Bowe (appointed 5 May 2020)
 Vincent Keenan (appointed 5 May 2020)
 Gareth Jones (passed away 9 January 2021 – RIP)
 Monica Leech (retired 29 January 2020)

SECRETARY

L & P Trustee Services Limited

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ray Bowe
 Maureen Mulligan
 Shane Cowley
 Daniel Browne
 Aine Myler

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Vincent Keenan
 Michael O'Shea
 Michael Monaghan
 Michael O'Keeffe

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Aine Myler
 Shane Cowley
 Daniel Browne
 Joseph O'Reilly
 Vincent Keenan
 Ray Bowe

QUALITY AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

Joseph O'Reilly
 Marian Harte
 Michael O'Keeffe
 Maureen Winston

AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Maureen Mulligan
 Michael Monaghan
 Maureen Winston

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Brian Allen

MANAGEMENT TEAM

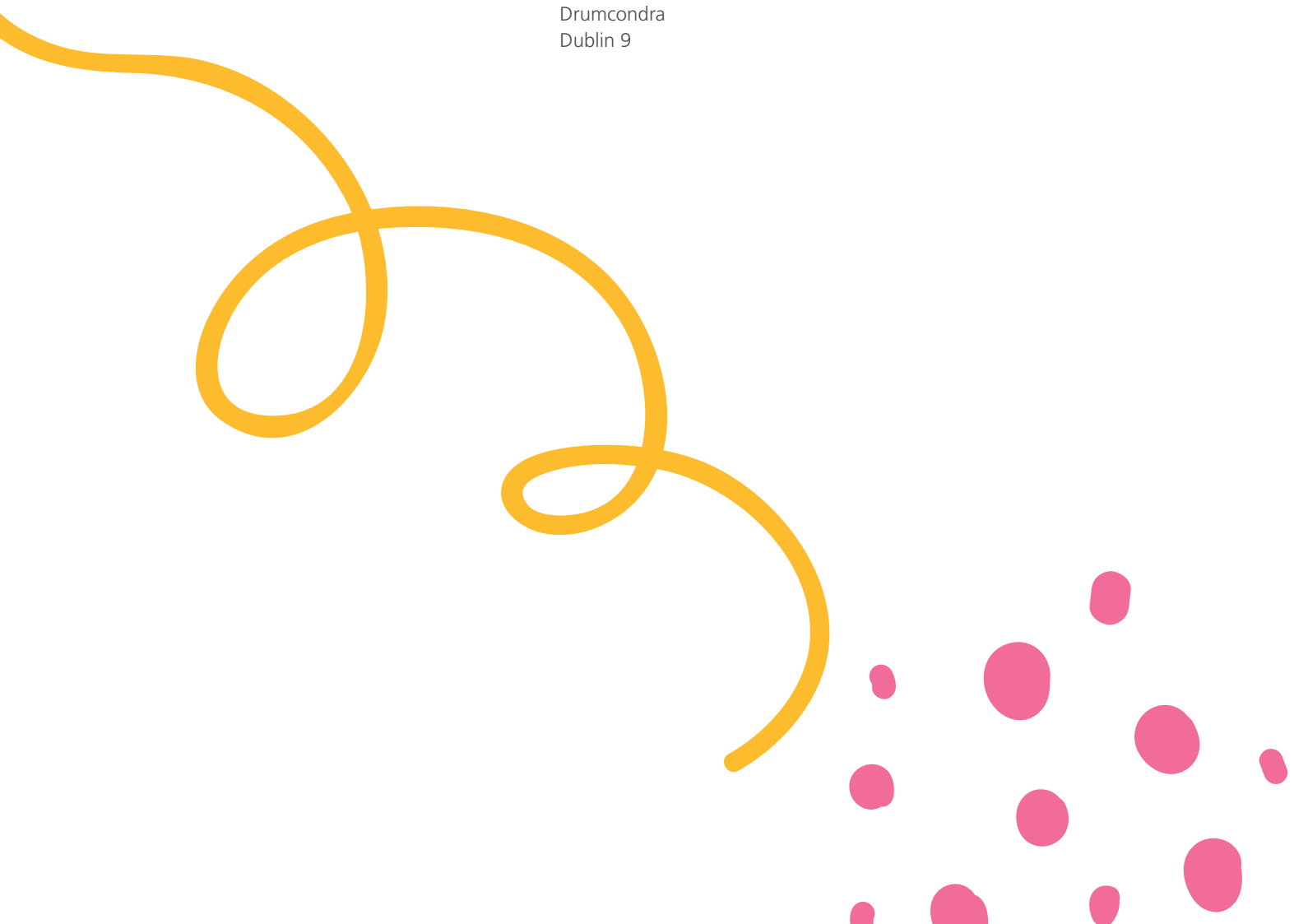
<i>Deputy Chief Executive</i>	Mary Leonard
<i>Director of Finance</i>	Richard Murphy
<i>Director of Care</i>	James Forbes
<i>Director of Education</i>	Ilka Staeglin
<i>Director of Human Resources</i>	Terry Forristal-Bissett
<i>Director of Reading Services</i>	Derval Healy

CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

James Forbes

Directors and other information (continued)

COMPANY NUMBER	453711
CHY No	CHY817
CHARITY NUMBER	20001278
REGISTERED OFFICE	75 Stephen's Green Dublin 2 D02 PR50
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	Grace Park Road, Drumcondra Dublin 9
AUDITORS	Crowe Ireland Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm Marine House, Clanwilliam Place, Dublin 2
BANKERS	AIB Bank Clonmel Co. Tipperary Bank of Ireland O'Connell Street Dublin 1
SOLICITORS	Drumgoole Solicitors 102 Upper Drumcondra Road Drumcondra Dublin 9







ChildVision

National Education Centre for Blind Children

Grace Park Road
Drumcondra
Dublin 9

T 01 837 3635
E info@ChildVision.ie
W www.ChildVision.ie

