



# Annual Report & Financial Statements 2021



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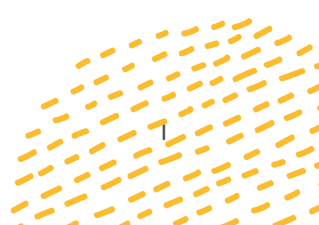


# Our Vision

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



For more information visit [www.childvision.ie](http://www.childvision.ie)





## Our Chair's statement

2021 saw another year of adaption and resilience for the ChildVision campus and community. We continued to implement additional health and safety protocols to ensure the safety of all, while the impact of COVID-19 continued to affect our service delivery and commercial and fundraising capacity. Despite this, the organisation provided an excellent quality of service throughout the second year of the pandemic, and I thank all the staff of ChildVision for their commitment during this challenging time. We built on many innovative programmes and continued to focus on the strategic delivery of our objectives, undeterred by the challenges presented.

I would like to acknowledge the expertise and hard work of my fellow Board members for their work during 2021, and, in particular, the oversight in response to the pandemic and ensuring ChildVision delivered the highest quality service to families of children and young people with sight loss and complex needs against a rigorous and supportive culture of corporate governance.

Every year ChildVision must fundraise to meet the cost of our service provision, in addition in recent years we have been raising capital intake towards our campus redevelopment. A sustainable funding model is an ongoing challenge for ChildVision and the wider disability sector in Ireland. On behalf of the Board, I would like to sincerely thank all our donors, supporters and corporate partners for their steadfast support in 2021.

I would also like to thank all the staff in ChildVision for their hard work and resilience shown in extraordinary times during 2021, always putting the young people first.

To our families, children and young people who come to ChildVision, thank you for working with us in true partnership in unprecedented times.



**Shane Cowley**

## Our CEO's statement

Throughout 2021 COVID-19 continued to dominate and compromise the way we led our lives, delivered our services and built relationships. Despite this extraordinary challenge I was humbled by the resilience and positivity shown by the team and families of ChildVision throughout this second year of the pandemic, and am very proud of dedication shown by everyone to ensure the children and young people continued to receive the best level of care possible

Productivity levels were not hindered by the challenging circumstances, with the Reading Services producing almost 7,000 titles of alternative format books for children in primary and secondary education. Almost 1,000 online professional and parent development courses and assistive technology events allowed for continued support to professional colleagues and parents when meeting in person continued to present challenges. Our specialist Therapies Department provided world-class intervention with 6,500 one to one sessions for children with sight loss and complex needs. Our Early Years service had an additional 21 new conditions presenting with sight loss, a stark reminder of how complex and bespoke our intervention with each child is, and how a focus on continued innovation and clinical development in the area of neurological sight loss and complex needs is to our work.

Over the past seven years our team has worked in line with the National Policy on Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young Adults (PDS). During 2021 our clinical team began work partnership with the HSE to prepare and develop a specialism for vision impairment within the PDS model, providing support and expertise to CDNTs all over Ireland, strengthening the delivery of a more equitable service for children with sight loss and complex needs throughout the country.

I would like to thank all the corporate partners and donors of ChildVision who continued to support our work throughout 2021, without you the work would not be possible.

Finally I would like to thank and acknowledge the work and commitment of the Chair and Board of ChildVision who provided expert guidance and oversight to the organisation throughout 2021.



**Brian Allen**



# Our Values



## **Person-Centred Inclusivity**

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



## **Professionalism**

Professional and critical practice.



## **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.

## 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](http://www.childvision.ie)

# Our Services



## Clinical Services

<b>Therapies</b>
Speech and Language
Occupational Therapy
Physiotherapy
<b>Nursing</b>
<b>Clinics</b>
Low vision
Ophthalmology
<b>Equine Assisted Occupational Therapy</b>



## National Network Services

<b>Assessment</b>
Early Years Arena
Multi-Disciplinary
ADOS2, autism
<b>Family Events</b>
<b>Professional Training Events</b>



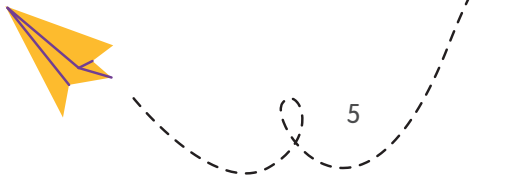
## Reading Services

<b>Braille</b>
Large Print and Daisy Education Transcription
<b>National Children's Library</b>
<b>Assistive Technology</b>
<b>Professional Resource Library</b>



## Education Services

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



# ChildVision 2021

at a glance



**€8,064,177**

total cost to run ChildVision

**2,500**

benefitted from the services of  
ChildVision in 2021



**€806K**

raised through  
fundraising



**€2.4m**

raised for capital  
programmes through  
fundraising



**4 weeks to  
24 years**

Age of students



**141 staff**

across two locations





## Reading Services

**6,951**

alternative format books produced

**1,200**

members borrowed library books



## Online Events

**583**

parents events

**339**

assistive tech learning events



## 1:1 Interventions

**6,512**

Therapy sessions

**9,800**

Nursing interventions

**2,500**

Orientation & Mobility sessions



## Life Skills

**800**

1:1 programmes delivered

**19**

graduates with 55 modules covered

**49**



littlest learners achieved  
amazing things

**97**



assessments delivered

**3,120**



equine assisted therapy  
sessions

# Early Years Service - 21 additional conditions (0-6 years)



# Meeting Our Strategic Objectives

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

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## Highlights of 2021

- Implementation of a visionary master plan for our campus, providing world-class innovative opportunities for learning and therapies.
- Embracing the best of hybrid learning and working for greater sustainability and work efficiencies, while re-invigorating our in-person services with compassion, care and reassurance.
- Progressed plans for third-level masters with a leading Irish university to professionalise graduates in low vision intervention.

## Impact

- Providing future certainties for learning and hope.
- Returning the focus to our young people and their futures.
- Progressing the plan for a world-class Irish campus for children and young people with sight loss and complex needs.

## In 2022, we will:

- Develop the next strategic plan to deliver our essential services.
- Deliver planning, engage a design team and begin the tender process for the master plan.
- Seek to raise funds through philanthropic means for our National Equine Assisted Therapy Centre.
- Explore possibilities and develop plans for third-level collaboration on delivery of postgraduate programmes with a view to providing future options for our young people coming to the end of their time on campus.

**Strategic Objective 2:** To support friendships and relationships with a person-centred ethos and campus.

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## Highlights of 2021

- Working with the HSE to provide vital supports for children with complex needs, whilst also supporting the roll out of Progressing Disabilities, New Directions and championing the impact of these changes for children with vision impairment and complex disabilities.
- Ensuring the impact of 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 the facilities helped many children with disability to benefit in this period of significant upheaval.

## Impact

Greater inclusion, more equality of access to vital services in a time of significant anxiety, change and challenge for these families. Continue to provide respite and a lifeline for families and services who had been significantly affected by COVID-19.

## In 2022, we will:

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



## Meeting our strategic objectives (continued)

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

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#### Highlights of 2021

- Continued to deliver a wide range of services to fit the needs of students as required, notably in therapeutic intervention delivering intervention, workshops and clinics to a wide range of stakeholders to improve early intervention in complex disabilities in combination with visual impairment.
- Provision of greater assisted technology resources to students and children at home.
- Further development of our 3D printing service to include a dedicated 3D Hub on campus to facilitate the demand for orders.

#### Impact

Increased concentration on capacity for independence and better interaction through assistive technology as a response to COVID-19, vital skills to foster for this cohort of young people throughout 2021.

#### In 2022, we will:

- Run a pilot programme of independent living, as a transition for students from our Term-time living programme.
- Continue to ensure that no child is turned away for shortage of spaces.
- Work in partnership with the HSE to ensure the sustainability of our Cork service.
- Continue to develop our specialist services for Progressing Disabilities.

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

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#### Highlights of 2021

- Capital fundraising committee commenced work on high-level philanthropic engagement to complete the final phase of funding for campus development.
- A new website was launched with enhanced donor capabilities and our new CRM system, ensuring sustainable fundraising was also launched organisation wide to capture the impact of our service delivery.
- The Board adopted a Fundraising Strategy focused on sustaining programmes and providing funding for the capital plans.
- With planning at an advanced stage, ChildVision engaged with HSE Estates and the SEAI to ensure sustainability of the new build.

#### Impact

- The CRM enhances our ability to report on impact.
- Capital funding secured will provide a world-class campus for young people with complex disabilities and visual impairment.

#### In 2022, we will:

- Launch the engagement part of our Philanthropic Capital plan.
- Complete implementation of the CRM system.
- Complete a sustainability audit, strategy and statement for the organisation.

## Strategic Objective 5 : To engage, develop and value our people

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### Highlights of 2021

- Staff continued to develop a wellbeing and mindfulness programme for all staff across campus through a series of in-person and virtual events.
- Continued planning for delivery of our rescheduled International Conference Vision 2022. A virtual event was held in July 2021 to showcase the content for July 2022. Over 300 delegates attended the virtual event..
- ChildVision took the chair of MDVI Euronet, a European network of organisations working with children and young people with sight loss and complex needs, and engaged in shared learning projects to ensure quality of service. MDVI Euronet was formed by CEO of ChildVision, Brian Allen, over twenty years ago.
- Significant upskilling of staff in 2021 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

- International recognition and opportunity to showcase our work in ChildVision.
- Awareness of ChildVision on a European level alongside shared expertise within the MDVI community.
- Chairing MDVI Euronet and hosting the International Conference elevates the awareness of ChildVision on an International stage, giving us a platform to highlight our work, grow our network, share learning and bring the impact back to our children and young people. The continued upskilling and other engagement programmes was the continued focus on the welfare of our teams throughout 2021.

### In 2022, we will:

- Continue to support remote and hybrid working, for those who can avail of it, for better retention of staff, 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.
- Continue to encourage CPD as an integral part of our culture.





# Providing day respite for Jay

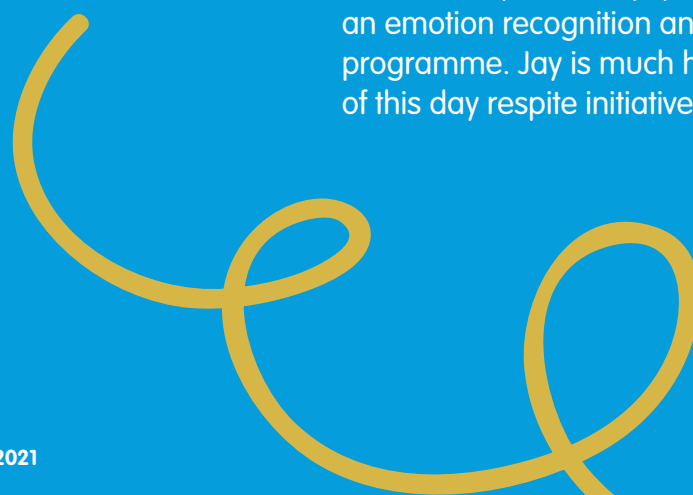


**Background: Jay is a bright, bubbly and full of life 10-year-old boy. Time spent with Jay is often full of jokes, playful fun and lots of laughs. Jay attends St Joseph's Primary School for Children with Visual Impairment and is supported by ChildVision's multi-disciplinary team. Jay has a diagnosis of cerebral palsy affecting his left side, a cerebral visual impairment, moderate level of intellectual disability and autism.**

What this means for Jay is that the world around him can be stressful at times and he has to work harder than most to take part in all the events and activities of his day. At times this can become too much for Jay which leads to him expressing himself in ways that are potentially harmful to himself and to others around him. Following the COVID-19 lockdowns, Jay found the return to school particularly difficult with the huge adjustment back to his old routine being a jarring and complicated experience for him. From the distress this created for Jay, grew concerns that the happy-go-lucky boy that everyone knew Jay to be was being seen less and less in school. Despite many supports and accommodations trialled by his school and classroom team, as supported by the ChildVision MDT, most days continued to be extremely challenging for Jay. It was clear that extra support was needed to help Jay adjust back to school life, following the unprecedented changes brought about by the pandemic.

From several team discussions and meetings, all agreed that Jay would benefit from a shorter school day but that additional time at home was confusing for him, throwing him back to the days of lockdown which was considered a trigger point for Jay's challenges in adjusting back to school life. This was also not sustainable for his mother to balance with the already high demands of being a sole carer for Jay and the main provider for the family, working part-time. Jay and his family needed a respite solution, alongside the usual supports of his school and MDT.

Jay now receives a respite package through ChildVision's social care team, his named SNA and members of the ChildVision MDT, including SLT, Nursing and O&M to split his school day so he can engage fully in his educational curriculum and also benefit from quality-of-life interventions and support with the respite team. Jay continues to receive input from his wider MDT. Current Occupational Therapy focuses include life skills development, equipment provision and an emotion recognition and regulation group programme. Jay is much happier as a result of this day respite initiative.





# Clinical Services

The clinical services team provide therapeutic input to the entire population attending ChildVision services. This includes:

Direct Caseload	National Assessment Service	Consultative and Training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years</li> <li>• Primary School Age</li> <li>• Residential secondary school students</li> <li>• Lifelong Learning</li> <li>• External caseload (children and adults referred to the Equine Facilitated Therapy Service and/or the eye clinic/ low vision clinic)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years Assessment Multidisciplinary Assessment (ADOS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training, advice and assessment to the children attending Childvision EY service in Cork</li> <li>• Training and advice to CDNTs (community disability network teams) nationwide</li> <li>• Host specialist workshops</li> <li>• Engage in Vision Impaired and Disability Special Interest Groups</li> <li>• Providing training and consultative advice to the National Governing bodies for Equine Services</li> <li>• Active engagement in European and international specialist networks promoting the development of Equine Facilitated Therapy services</li> </ul>

## Impact of COVID-19 on service provision

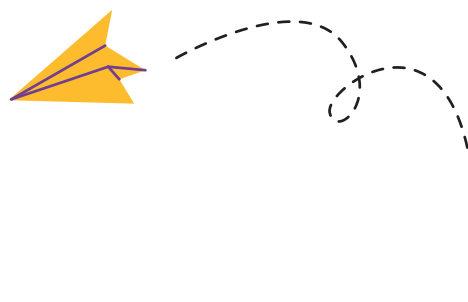
The lockdown in early 2021 saw yet another need for an adaptable response in service provision for the clinical therapies department. At the start of the year, there were no children on campus. During this fearful time for parents/guardians, the nursing team provided support and guidance to parents/guardians who were isolating with their children/young people and, at times, provided home visits whilst using full PPE. Gradually, from March onwards, they started to return to campus. The Lifelong Learning participants returned on a reduced week. Early years and primary school also returned on a phased basis also during this time. With clear and strict protocols in place, therapy was provided throughout all of this time. In the earlier months, there was online support, and once students came back to campus, staff were here and seeing students for direct input as needed. Direct input has been maintained throughout the rest of 2021. Equine saw more students on a one-to-one basis to further minimise risks, however, from September 2021, a full service was reinstated.

## Innovation and service delivery response

There were a number of changes made to service delivery, some of which will endure into the future. The COVID-19 Management Meetings were held regularly and provided succinct support to the clinical services team in the return to direct service provision.

Campus-wide creation and implementation of COVID-19 safety guidelines were implemented to allow staff and children/young people to return to campus as safely as possible under government guidelines, as outlined in the "Working Safely in Childvision" document.

Specialised cleaning routines for all departments, including equine equipment, were instated. In all areas, general access was restricted to staff and students availing of direct therapy services only. In Equine, this meant that all sessions took place in the arena, and no access to the stables was permitted.



Continuous education was provided to both staff and children/young people on COVID-19 safety measures, including appropriate use of PPE. Management also provided evidence based information on COVID-19 infection and benefits/risk of vaccination to children/young people and their families in an easy to understand format. Life long learning students were facilitated to attend COVID-19 vaccination clinics. Staff took the opportunity to conduct home visits where possible. We took to the great outdoors and therapists held sessions outside, when the rain allowed us to do so. All meetings – both for staff and parents – were held remotely online.

The therapy team triaged as one. Collective triage of students across disciplines (SLT, OT, PT) took place to ensure that one pupil was only accessing one area of need at any one time.

The therapy and nursing team got together to look at advice clinics. As we couldn't have parents onsite, we tried to pre-empt parent queries and to run "advice clinics" as a substitute. Advice clinics were initiated in February 2021 on a trial basis. This was following a parent/caregiver survey completed in January 2021. Advice clinics were hosted by ChildVision's Therapy and Nursing departments via video-conference. Each advice clinic focused on certain topics of childhood development and everyday skills. Parents and caregivers were welcome to join as a group and talk through any issues or questions they had around that topic for their child. The trial involved four clinics on the topics of: an overview of the eye clinic, developing language through AAC, sensory processing: foundations for learning and feeding, eating and drinking.

Parents whose children attended the Equine Department were supported by phone contact and online workshops as required throughout this period alongside direct service provision for their children. The workshops followed on from a programme of sensory support information provided through our outreach newsletter in 2020. These were focused and individualised workshops supporting parents with the sensory needs of their children.

During the year, the therapy team provided parental education sessions for the parents of children awaiting enrolment in the early years' service. In these education sessions, parents were provided with a safe, relaxing space where they could attend with their toddlers and have access to information from the therapy team relating to but not specifically: play and language, FEDS, AAC and VI, motor management, developmental check listing, development through play and advice regarding seeking onwards referral, etc. In total there were six group sessions provided and two individual sessions provided to parents who did not wish to engage within a group setting.

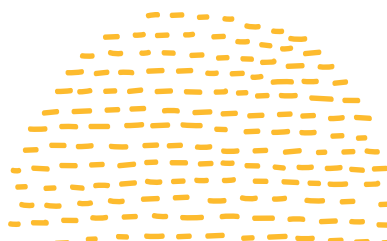
## Equine

The service provided through the Equine Therapy unit in ChildVision is a highly specialised and unique form of therapeutic intervention. The unit has a challenging capacity and is fully funded by the generous support of fundraised income and a highly subsidised fee per intervention. This year the Equine Therapy unit was approached by Horse Sport Ireland (HSI) and the Association of Irish Riding Establishments (AIRE) looking to work in partnership. The ChildVision Equine team was tasked with developing a course to educate and train equine professionals to provide Therapeutic Riding. This course was to be based on work that Equine staff had done with the International Association of Human Animal Interaction Organisations (IAHAIO). Funding was sought from the dormant accounts fund and €45,000 was allocated for course development and provision over 2021 and 2022. This course, provided to equine professionals, will help to provide high quality step down facilities for our clients. This course, utilising expertise from across the ChildVision campus, was developed during 2021 and first delivered to 15 participants in November 2021. The pilot project has funding for a further four courses to be run in 2022. This will support the ongoing therapeutic input available in ChildVision and our standing as a centre of excellence in education and provision of services to children and young people.

## Clinics

The Orthotics clinics were continued during the year in 2021 at a reduced capacity. There were four clinics physically held on-site in the Occupational Therapy Department, which were subject to the current COVID-19 safety measures. Due to these said measures, a reduced number of children were seen in each clinic in order to reduce the likelihood of patients overlapping on entry/exiting the clinic. There was also a need to reduce capacity as to allow for deep cleaning between appointments and at the end of each clinic. In some instances, children were unable to attend campus and special arrangements were made to facilitate these children's appointments within the New Ireland Orthotics offices in Bray. In total, there were 22 children seen for orthotic appointments in 2021 across these locations.

Five seating clinics were held in 2021 and facilitated by the Occupational Therapy Department. These clinics assessed students for seating and positioning needs as related to their school and/or day programme engagement and participation.





## Clinical Services (continued)

Unfortunately, due to re- deployment of our HSE ophthalmologist/optometrist colleagues, the Eye Clinic was suspended until late 2021. However, throughout this time children/young people experiencing acute sight issues were assisted through our hospital partnership. However, registered paediatrician with a special interest in visual impairment and children with additional needs, has been a welcome addition to the team, providing a link with the acute hospital services and sessional input to children attending the Early Years and Primary School.

### Training events hosted by the team

The Occupational Therapy Department provided a workshop on Home Environment Adaptations for those with VI in February 2021.

AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) Group Ireland Virtual Study Day Approximately 60 speech and language therapists from various organisations around the country came together on zoom in December 2021 to share expertise and specific models of practise within the area of AAC. The Speech and Language Therapy department at ChildVision jointly presented information on using AAC for children and adults with a visual impairment, with a particular focus on CVI. It was an excellent opportunity to share and learn ideas about what works well in different settings. It also provided a useful networking opportunity; participants were given access to a shared folder on Dropbox, where presentations from the day were stored and information could be uploaded and accessed by SLTs when required. Feedback from the group organisers on ChildVision's presentation, from the group organisers, was positive. An invitation was extended to SLTs, nationwide, to refer clients to ChildVision for Functional Vision Assessments in the future, if deemed helpful in the context of their local service delivery. This was welcomed by all who attended the study day.

Senior SLT and the OT manager hosted two seminars named "How to assess for autism in the visually impaired". Both of these online events were very well attended with over 100 participants, across many professions throughout Ireland.

The Equine Unit provided the inaugural Therapeutic Riding Coach Course in November 2021 in ChildVision. This was well attended and received.

Due to COVID-19, there was only one Equine Assisted Occupational Therapy Workshop for Parents and Professionals in October 2021.

The OT manager participated virtually in a specialist Occupational Therapy Round Table Forum on issues and relevant topics affecting occupational therapists working in equine settings. This forum was hosted online from the Horses in Education and Therapy International (HETI) conference based in Seoul in South Korea.

The Equine Team were highly involved in the setting up of a national register of Equine Assisted Therapies practitioners. This involved working on all of the policies and procedures, qualifications and practice evidence that was required in order to gain recognition on the register that went live in August 2021. The register was funded through HETI and set up by a number of practitioners around the country.

Equine staff presented an international IAHAIO webinar in February 2021. They presented on "Equine Welfare, Care and Training for the Therapeutic Horse" to an international audience of approximately 400 delegates. They also participated virtually in a specialist equine welfare forum at the HETI 2021 congress in Seoul. This was based on a collaborative white paper adopted by IAHAIO in 2021 which our team co-authored.



**“ Knowledge of visual  
impairment changed  
Daniel’s life for the better’ ”**

Emma, Mum to Daniel



# Adam

## A world of reading at his finger tips



**ChildVision means a lot to us. It has been a place we can turn to for help since Adam was a baby. The website tips and vision assessments by multidisciplinary teams in the early days were priceless to us and helped educate us in how to help our son.**

As he dived into the world of books, the large print of toddlers and junior infants began to shrink.

Because we were familiar with ChildVision, we knew who to call for help. The library staff have been there for us ever since. They have brought Adam through from paired reading with us to independent reading all on his own, which was something we were not sure he could do.

They have gone through his phases of Usbourne fact books, Horrid Henry, Roald Dahl, David Walliams and, of course, his beloved Harry Potter. The ChildVision library staff have helped him read independently both for pleasure and for school. They were an absolute godsend through lockdown when screens were enticing, Adam had his books to read.

They have also helped parents who love reading be able to share this love with their son. This was a worry in the early days but ChildVision Library and their fantastic staff were there to guide and help us as a family along the way.

Thank you all for all you do.

**Kitty & Val Duffy** (Adam's parents)

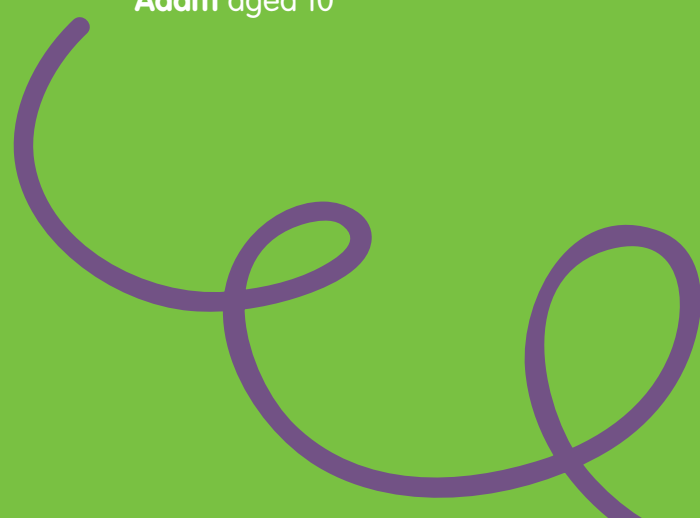
I like the books in the library but I can't read braille so my ones are the large print. I love the way you can relax in the library. With the large print I can read it easily on my own and it doesn't hurt my eyes and I don't need help. This makes me feel that I am able enough to read.

During lockdown the Childvision Library books and my largeprint school books helped me because I wasn't on the screen reading all the time and that helped my eyes. It helped mammy too as she likes me not on the screen too much. Because of the large print books I read my first big book all my myself and I was only 8 it was Gangsta Granny. This made me feel proud.

I was only a baby then because now I am into Harry Potter and I will be 9  $\frac{3}{4}$  on the 22nd of April and I will be on the Goblet of Fire by then that Santa got me, I am going to need the Order of the Phoenix by September I think.

Thank you for helping me read books all be myself.

**Adam** aged 10







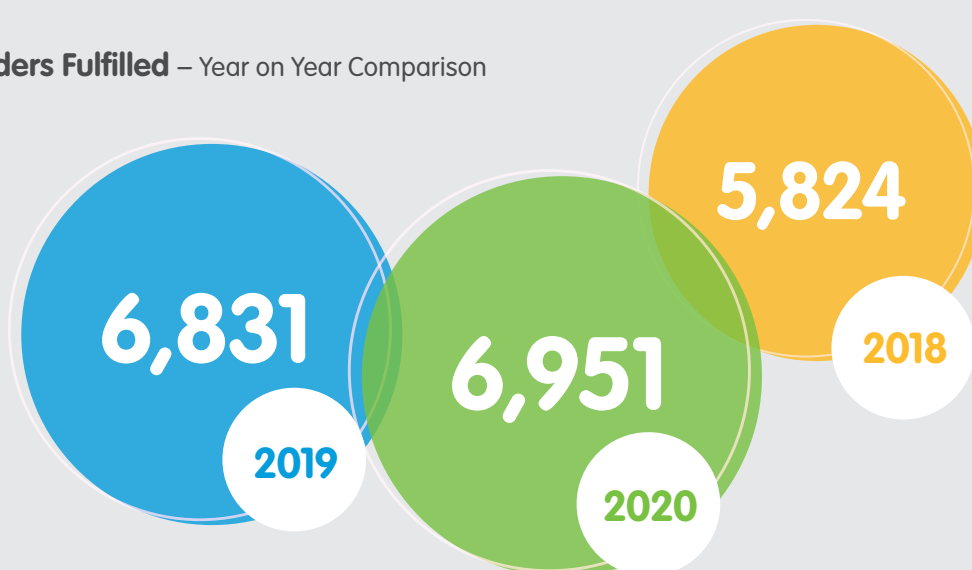
# Reading Services

Reading Services is a national service that transcribes and provides educational and leisure reading material in alternative formats (braille, large print, Digital, text-files, tactile and 3D) to students registered with a visual impairment in Ireland. The department also support students, parents, teachers and professionals through access to our extensive research library and provision of support for the use of assistive technology.

## Production of educational material

The academic year 2020/2021 was another strong year in terms of the production with almost 7,000 titles transcribed. There was also a rise in demand for the service with registrations reaching 975 students. The table below show the comparative increase in orders year-on-year:

### Orders Fulfilled – Year on Year Comparison



The high level of production was facilitated through the continuation of a hybrid working model with the majority of transcription completed remotely and the final production stages (printing, embossing, binding and posting) completed on campus. The impact of COVID-19 in schools was evident throughout this academic year with more students requesting second copies of titles to facilitate remote learning and/or as support during isolation or periods of restricted movements.

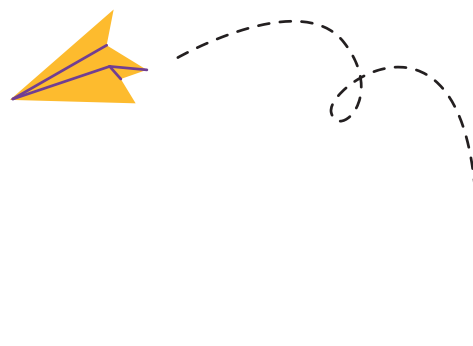
## Library

This year saw the completion of our library refurbishment thanks to a generous donation from an anonymous family trust. This refurbishment saw the addition of a new 3D hub, a dedicated resource/study space alongside increased capacity to host our 5,989 titles including 554 new titles added this year.

Despite the library remaining closed due to our campus closure, demand for the service increased with membership rising by 10% to 1,350 members and postal orders requests exceeding 900 titles.

## 3D Print Hub

The need for a dedicated space for 3D printing was evident due to the increase in demand for 3D objects for use in the production of educational material in braille. Our 3D product range increased with the introduction of a braille fraction wall and fraction signifiers, braille 100 square, further development of our braille cell used as a teaching aid and our COVID-19-friendly 3D handle grip. This year also saw the initial expansion of 3D to a campus-wide project with discussions around how 3D objects could be utilised throughout our services, e.g., clinical services, lifelong learning programme, orientation and mobility to name a few! This is a really exciting area with opportunity for growth and expansion.







**“ Knowledge of visual  
impairment changed  
Daniel’s life for the better. ”**

Emma, Mum to Daniel



# Jaxon

## a littlest learner in our Early Years Service



**Jaxon has a diagnosis of Dyskinetic Cerebral Palsy, epilepsy and was diagnosed with Cerebral Visual Impairment at just 4 months old. This has resulted in Jaxon having only potentially light perception and very limited use of his arms, hands and legs. He also has seizures a number of times a day. He started in ChildVision when he was only a few months old and now attends three days per week.**

Jaxon has celebratory milestones constantly in ChildVision. We have watched his ability to communicate develop, giving a wonderful smile to his teachers who welcome him each morning, (although nothing can compare to his smile when his Mammy is mentioned or heard). Unfamiliar adults do not get the same welcome! When entering the room if Jaxon hears a known adult he will make his presence known by vocalising or kicking his legs to get your attention to make sure you don't forget to say 'Hello'.

Jaxon accesses his therapies outside ChildVision in his local team, but is assisted by the ChildVision therapy team for seating (Occupational Therapy), positioning (Physiotherapy) and feeding (Speech & Language Therapy), he accesses a specialised seat, stander and sling for transfers. Jaxon also attends Equine Therapy weekly and this is something he really enjoys although he is usually exhausted following his session, which means he works very hard. The nursing team keep updated with the changes in medication and are on hand when necessary as the teaching staff manage Jaxon's numerous seizures each day while in class.

Jaxon takes part in a variety of different activities during his morning, all devised by his teacher Maria, who has known Jaxon

since he first began his journey with us in ChildVision. Operating a key worker approach enables the teacher to learn what interests the child and what they like and dislike working very closely with the parents. Developing a close relationship between parent and teacher is the key for success, particularly for children with complex needs.

Jaxon loves his sensory activities, and interacts well with a number of different tactile toys but his favourite is 'The activity dome', 'Survival Blanket' which he can make lots of noise with despite his reduced movement, and the sensory swing, which his teacher has transformed into his own personal visual sensory area.

As Jaxon's visual impairment is Cortical Visual Impairment, his low vision specialist works to stimulate any residual vision to encourage visual attendance. All the Early Intervention specialists at ChildVision are constantly researching, exchanging and participating in projects with our European counterparts to ensure the most up to date information on working with children with CVI.

We look forward to having Jaxon with all the new achievements he will make. Regardless of the challenges he faces we will be there with him to support him and his family every step of the way.





# Education Services

ChildVision Education Services play their part in the overall educational journey of the children and young people who avail of them.

## Early Years

The Early Years services in Dublin and Cork provide vital early intervention, assessments and tailored programmes to prepare children for primary school education. Orientation and Mobility Services accompany the children from the early years through primary and secondary school education. The Lifelong Learning Programme offers school leavers a unique opportunity to combine further learning with the experience of social enterprises and the world of work. The Education Services also help with transitions between the respective programmes.

### Early Years Service (EYS) Dublin

In 2021, the Early Years Service was highly in demand and has added and extended some of its service to young children with a visual impairment and other disabilities. 35 Children attended in the academic year 2020/2021 with a higher level of complex conditions and disabilities 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 staff working 20 hours.

The EYS did not close its doors during January to March 2021 unlike other ECCE preschools nationally. Every child was accommodated, with a reduction in days to allow for each child to have direct contact with their teacher and give each family a short period of respite. The EYS also remained opened throughout mid-term to ensure continuity and consistency of service for the children.

Similar to last year, there was a larger demand on places for children under two years of age. Normally we would have seen a referral of children under the age of one, but suspect that this was due to the impact of delayed referrals due to COVID-19. Our service was under increased pressure as

there were four children requiring an over -age exemption due to lack of primary school places. Our early intervention room had to be split to accommodate for ECCE children who had no alternative placements and could not be facilitated in our current two ECCE rooms. This in turn led to no new children in the under two years old age group receiving a morning placement with us and a parents' group was formed with the children who in previous years would have had a two-day place. Only fully vaccinated parents were allowed to attend the parents' group with those other families receiving a one to one session.

As in previous years, 90% of all children attending have multiple disabilities. We also saw an increase in combinations of disabilities which require higher levels of staffing per child in order to best support their activities and development, requiring a ratio of 2:1 necessary for two rooms.

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 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 co-operation with therapies.

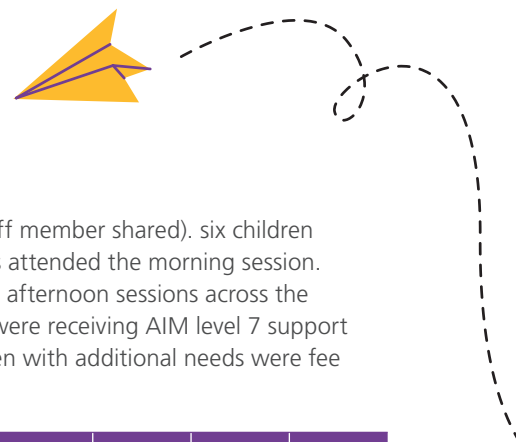
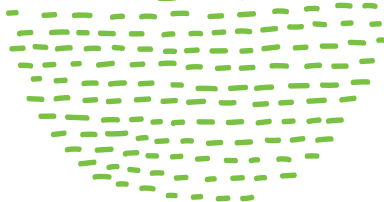
Special days planned were the Christmas Concert, the EYS Christmas party and Easter Egg Hunt and the end of year graduation, all which had to be changed to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions.

No child is offered a placement of three or more days at present. The EYS did not have any vacancy during the year and all new children were accommodated by being offered 1:1 sessions or groups sessions.

In December 2021, there were eight children requesting a morning placement but there were no spaces available.

### Attendance at Early Years Service September 2021

Children by Age	Total	Attend 1 Day Per Week	Attend 2 Days Per Week	Attend 3 Days Per Week	Parent/Group Session 1 hour Per Week
0-1 year	1				1
1 year	6		3		3
2 years	11		6	3	2
3 years	9		2	7	
4 years	5		3	2	
5 years	2		1	1	



## Assessments and vision work

The EYS co-ordinator provides input in most assessments carried out on campus and has particular expertise in 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. Requests for assessments per week are received and timetabled. ADOS assessments are carried out, as requested. On average four EYS assessments, six to eight FVA and one MDT assessment required an EYS staff to be present.

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

## Compliance

Due to the multi-faceted work of the EYS, colleagues are linking in and comply with several bodies, i.e., AIM/ECCE, Túsła, DoE and others. This requires work in attending consultation processes, national conferences within the Early Years and complying with all the relevant administrative work. In 2021, we had a Túsła inspection in which the EYS was fully compliant.

## Training

Consequently, our staff stay up-to-date and attend relevant training on a continuous basis. In 2020/21, all staff completed onsite training with our nursing team and Speech and Language in regards to seizure and dysphasia training. Modules on Moodle to assist in the safe opening of the Early Years were completed by all staff, as well as additional training offered directly by the Dublin City Childcare Committee (DCCC).

## Future challenges

Currently we are looking at our 2022 enrolment. Again this year, we face the situation of having our Early Intervention Room divided into an ECCE room. This is as a direct result of the lack of primary school places available to children with MDVI. This impacts on the younger children as we are only able to give these children the maximum of one hour per week as part of an individual session or parents group. It also means that children are coming into our morning session at the age of three rather than one or two.

## Early Years Service Cork

The services offered in Cork comprise of the fully integrated pre-school, assessment and one-to-one VI support afternoon sessions, Orientation and Mobility support and low vision intervention.

Twenty-five children attended the service during the 20/21 academic year with thirteen attending morning sessions across the week, seven of whom were receiving AIM level

7 support (additional staff member shared). six children without additional needs attended the morning session. twelve children attended afternoon sessions across the week – seven of whom were receiving AIM level 7 support and a further two children with additional needs were fee paying in the afternoon

	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days
<b>Morning</b>	1	3	1		8
<b>Afternoon</b>		6		1	5

	AIM support	No additional needs	Additional needs and fee paying	Total
<b>Morning</b>	7	6		13
<b>Afternoon</b>	7	3	2	12

## Staff

Our staff group comprises of one permanent prechool teacher, two additional staff members (AIM support posts of 30 hours each), one Orientation and Mobility instructor and the Early Years Services Manager.

In line with other ECCE preschools nationally, the preschool closed from January to March 2021. However, the team continued to provide support to our children. We provided direct support to children with complex needs who attended the centre on a one-to-one basis. This provided much needed respite to the families as well as continuity and consistency for the children.

## Special events

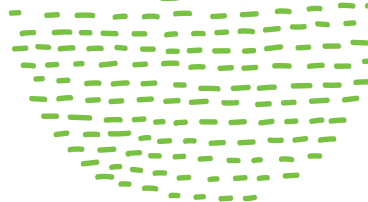
We returned to some normality in 2021 when we were able to run an Easter camp over the Easter holidays. We held an end-of-year graduation in the garden for our preschool graduates which was a huge success and a fantastic day for all our families. We ran a full summer programme which included a mixture of preschool summer camps, V.I. summer camps and pay-as-you-go days.

The preschool team continued to engage with Better Start Quality Development Service throughout 2021. The team worked on a number of concerns relating to improving the overall experience within the preschool including developing the curriculum and helping to support children with change and transitions.

## Compliance

ChildVision Preschool Cork liaise and comply with several Government regulatory bodies including; ECCE, AIM, Túsła and DES. We had an unannounced Túsła inspection on 8th November 2021 in which we achieved a report of full compliance.





## Education Services (continued)

### Lifelong Learning

One new student joined the Lifelong Learning programme in 2021 – bringing the total to 22. All our participants have an individual personal plan with annual reviews completed. Three new staff members were recruited in 2021. To support friendships and relationships in a person-centred ethos and campus, 98 Relationship and Sexuality Education sessions were delivered to students in person and via Zoom as well as 40 Human rights and self-advocacy training sessions were delivered weekly by an external advocate from Trinity College.

### Work-it-Out project and programmes

ChildVision was successful in a grant application to the Dormant Accounts Fund in January 2021. The Work-It-Out project, an employment skills project enabled the hire of three Employment Skills Trainers (EST) to support 20 participants to improve their work-related skills, access work experience and explore further training or employment options in their local communities around Ireland. The project began in April and all three trainers were in posts by May.

In 2021, nineteen participants were provided with over 800 one-to-one sessions and all 19 participants will go forward for certification in Asdan and QQI modules in June 2022 – 55 modules in total. During the summer months the trainers facilitated community visits in nine counties around Ireland. As COVID-19 restrictions did not allow for people to access work experience, the team improvised and arranged interviews in workplaces of interest for the participants. The participants interviewed staff in a local ETB, a garden centre, a hotel, Pennys, a café, a music academy and a shredding facility. The summer provision was a great success with 94% of people stating that it helped to reduce their social isolation and 89% said that the project has helped them to improve their employment knowledge and skills. Further activities were as follows:

- We supported one young person in college and one student to attend a part-time course in the community.
- We engaged with an organisation called Fast Track into Technology (FIT) who provided employment skills coaching and facilitated mock interviews for 13 students.
- In June 2021, after fifteen months of COVID-19 restrictions, we resumed full service hours for all students.
- All Lifelong Learning staff attended a series of webinars on the introduction of the HSE National Person-Centred Planning (PCP) framework.
- A review of the service and the implementation of New Directions standards was conducted by Dr Susan Flynn – TCD. Students, their families and staff were involved in the process through a series of interviews and small focus groups. A report is available.

### Life Skills programmes

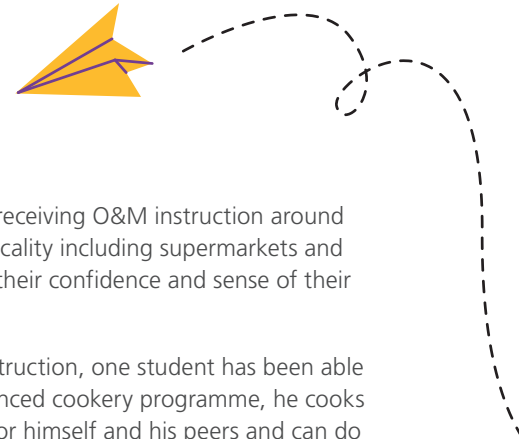
In order to focus on the growth, sustainability and innovation of our service delivery in this area:

- We continued to develop our partnership with We Make Good. We supplied them with a range new products for their Soap with Soul range and are planning corporate gift sets for 2022.
- We launched our new soap – CanDo Soap and Skincare.
- We were successful in a grant application to Rethink Ireland (formally Social Innovation Fund Ireland) and were awarded funding towards business supports and a place on their Accelerator programme.
- We engaged three new retailers in the community and began selling online via Wicklow Marketplace and Shopify.
- The Learning Tree Crèche assisted us with funding to make hand-printed cards on an Adana letterpress.
- We partnered with John Hanly Weavers to avail of their off cuts for our Weave Made it weaving programme.
- We operated a market stall in the city centre selling products from CanDo and Weave Made It; generating revenue, providing paid work for two students.
- We donated over 100 gift sets to frontline workers to recognise the incredible work they did during the pandemic.
- Our confidential shredding programme sent over three tonnes of paper to be recycled.
- In horticulture, we potted over 2,000 plants to be sold in the ChildVision Garden Centre.
- We revamped the ChildVision charity shop to include a workspace for weaving and knitting. This will be a wonderful opportunity to showcase the abilities and skills of the Lifelong Learning students as well as sell our handmade products once we are back open to the general public.

### Education supports

ChildVision continues to provide education supports to children of all age groups across all departments and services. This ranges from, for instance, assistive technology or alternative formats for educational and recreational texts to co-operation with outside agencies like NALA or on-campus orientation and mobility instruction. In addition to the services listed in the Education section, the Director of Education liaises with both St. Joseph's School for Children with Visual Impairment and Rosmini Community School to support transitions, address mutual concerns and co-operate for the benefit of the students. The Director of Education also serves as a Board member of Rosmini Community School.





## Orientation and Mobility

### Background information

There are currently three O&M specialists working with over 120 children and young adults across campus in Early Years Service, St Joseph's Primary school, Lifelong Learning and Pobalscoil Rosmini and one O&M specialist providing assessments to children and young people nationwide. The O&M department continued to deliver up to 70 hours of one to one orientation and mobility classes each week by three dedicated specialists.

### Impact of COVID-19 on O&M provision

COVID-19 has had an unfortunate impact on some of our O&M services, mainly the timeline of training on public transport, as throughout the year with the high infection levels parents of young people and young people themselves were understandably reluctant to be exposed to unnecessary levels of infection. As a result, some of the students who would have commenced their training on public transport earlier in 2020/2021 focused on other areas of their O&M journey including more advanced complex road crossings, until such a time as the infection rates levelled out. One benefit of public transport training during the pandemic was the reduced capacity on buses which afforded our students more time to become comfortable with the procedure of bus travel and, as a result, our young people are more confident than ever.

### Innovation and service delivery response

The O&M service continued to deliver a training programme on basic orientation and mobility skills to professionals and parents.

Contact with the local city council office has resulted in improved footpath conditions, mainly the repaving of Church Avenue which is regularly accessed by students and has in the past proved to be inaccessible for wheelchair users.

Participation in the O&M online symposium in January 2021 has enabled the team to upskill and engage with the international O&M community.

### Student training activities and noticeable achievements

Ten students are receiving weekly training on how to access Dublin Bus, incorporating the correct use of their public service card, engaging with the public and building up their confidence on travelling independently.

Five Early Years students are receiving O&M on a weekly basis incorporating the use of the basic cane skills, pre cane skills including trailing walls in order to navigate safely around their learning and home environment.

Twenty-six students are receiving O&M instruction around accessing shops in the locality including supermarkets and post offices building up their confidence and sense of their community.

After extensive O&M instruction, one student has been able to participate in an advanced cookery programme, he cooks the main evening meal for himself and his peers and can do this as a result of being able to independently purchase the ingredients from local retailers.

Another student has been able to organize and attend a range of social outings with her friend, having mastered the skills taught in her independent taxi travel training.

Following training, two students from ChildVision's residential houses are now able to access a third level college place using Dublin Bus.

One student is now completely independent in accessing Heuston train station from his educational setting using a combination of Dublin Bus and LUAS travel options.

Several primary school students are independently mobilising around the school with three students making their way to the bus escort independently.

Three MDVI students in primary school have begun recognising landmarks on routes to local shops.

The delivery of a new transformation pod will enable students from the primary school to access this resource more freely due to reduced height restrictions as it has a built in lift. Currently one student from primary school and 20 residential students have been availing of weekly training on the pod resulting in increased pace, confidence and posture and helping to improve their gait. Thirty minutes of exercise on the pod is equivalent to an hour of walking on the road.

### Additional training

Apart from direct O&M session, the following training was delivered to colleagues, families and professionals:

- 2 x 2 hour sessions in person and via Zoom to colleagues and other professionals on an Introduction to Orientation and Mobility as part of the Family Resource Calendar of Events and as an element of ChildVision staff induction.
- Ongoing instruction to staff on how to support their visually impaired students in using their Orientation and Mobility Skills.
- Maintenance and extension of links with fellow Orientation and Mobility Specialists, e.g., liaison with NCBI Community resource workers re mutual students.

# Grainne

## a case study in resilience



**Grainne, a residential student who came to complete her secondary education at ChildVision when a stroke left her visually impaired, shares what she learnt during 2021 about herself.**

"ChildVision has given me the confidence to use assistive technology in school. I use something called CCTV [closed circuit television, or video magnifier] which magnifies my books and the board. Since online schooling, we are using technology a lot more, my eyes are constantly sore. I'm waiting to get a special piece of technology called a Mercury 12, which is like mobile CCTV."

**On horses, dreams, and equine therapy:**

"Horses mean everything to me. I started it for my physical activity, since I can't drive. The horse therapy helps me – I feel so independent on the horse – but then I can also volunteer and make it easier for the kids. My dream is to work with horses, exercising them."

**On giving back:** "When I was volunteering in the equine yard, this little girl, she used rollers [a therapeutic device over the saddle to help with core strength]. She got better because I kept telling her to trot. One day we were able to take away the rollers, then it was just her on her own, with me. It made me feel really happy for her. I don't do it for myself, I do it for the smaller kids."

**On sight loss:** "I used to have full vision up till I was eleven, it was such freedom, and

before I came to ChildVision I wouldn't even use my cane. I didn't want people saying, 'Oh, she's visually impaired. You have to treat her differently.' At ChildVision I have the space to be me and my brain injury and sight loss doesn't make me scared anymore. What I would say to any young person who loses their sight is, don't let your fears get in the way."

**Afterword:** Since lockdown Gráinne has been living back at home. But the ChildVision therapy team are still working with her – including providing Gráinne with British Horse Society Stage 1 Stable Management videos, with the hope of allowing her to work towards these exams in the near future! Go, Gráinne!









# National Network Services

National Network Services embrace ChildVision's commitment to being a creative and exciting organisation, pushing the boundaries of what is possible for the children, families and professionals with whom we work. It is from this perspective that we review what the team has done in 2021.

The uncertain trajectory of COVID-19 continued to challenge our usual and familiar methods of service delivery. We had limited opportunities for in-person sessions on campus due to continuing national restrictions and our own strict infection control measures designed to protect the vulnerable children using our services. As a result, we had to postpone a significant number of assessments, activities and training events optimistically scheduled to take place in ChildVision. We were prepared for this eventuality, knowing that nothing is certain during the pandemic and adapted easily to continuing on-line engagement in 2021.

We were able to use what we had learnt about providing our services remotely through digital media such as Zoom, Teams and our e-learning platform, Moodle to be creative and inventive. On-line access is wonderful, opening up opportunities for engaging with a wider circle of people from more parts of Ireland – children and young people, families and professionals – but lacks the immediacy,

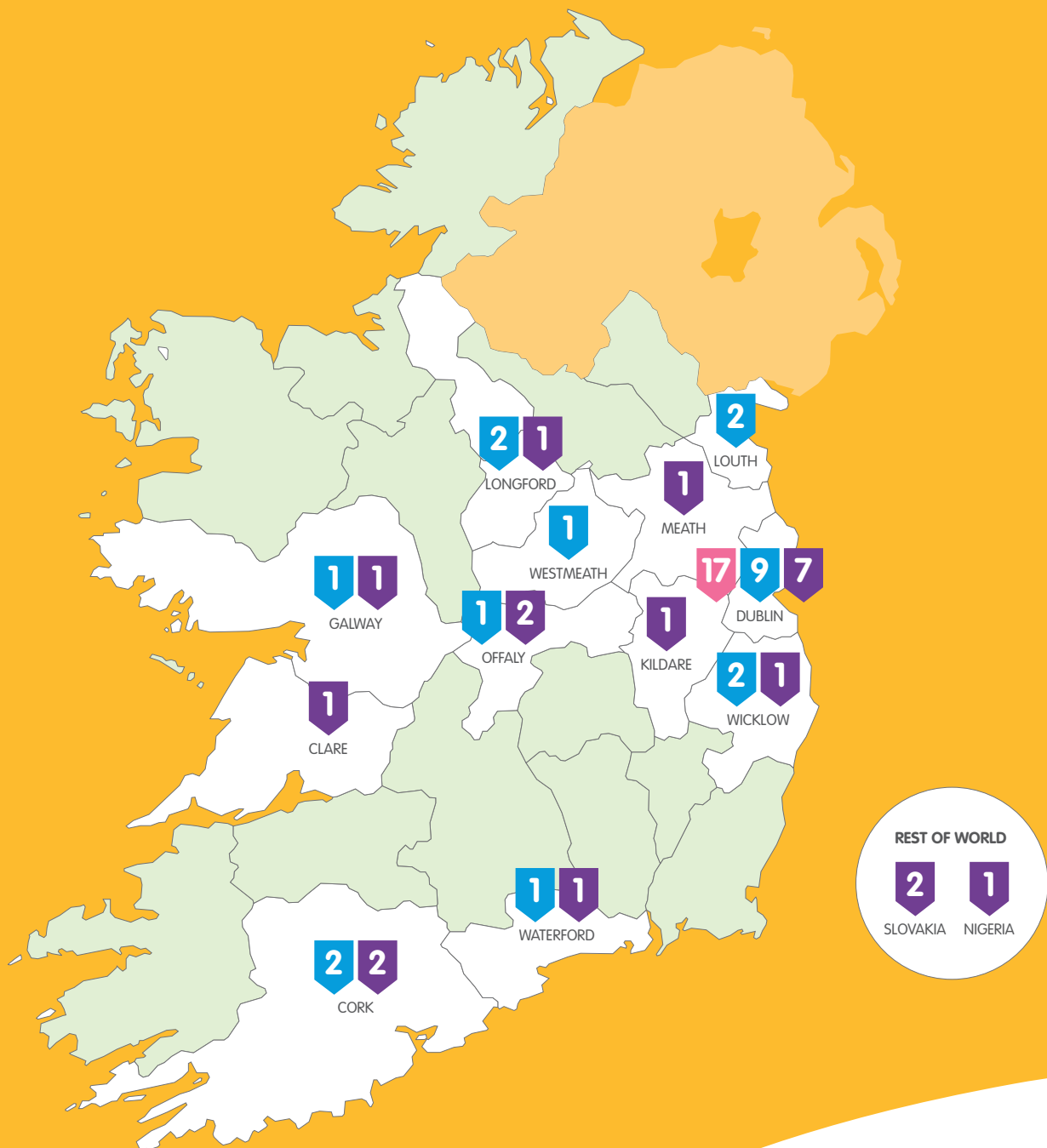
warmth and subtlety of in-person interaction. We wanted to build on the enthusiasm for and acceptance of on-line engagement and combine it with as much in-person engagement as possible to create a blended, flexible approach to our service delivery.

## National Assessment Service

A blended approach is important for all elements of the National Assessment Service. Although we can listen, gather information, offer specific advice and support parents online via Zoom; it is difficult to carry out a comprehensive assessment without physically meeting the child and their parents. Operating within COVID-19 restrictions, we offered as many in-person assessments as we could to families from across Ireland. All members of the assessment teams provide services to children attending ChildVision, balancing the commitment to these children and to those waiting for assessment alongside staff absences caused by COVID-19 restrictions was particularly challenging in 2021. However, we were determined to keep each child and young person at the heart of what we do, with every assessment individually tailored to suit their needs and abilities.



## Assessments - Number of People and Locations 2021



### Early Years Assessment

17 people



### Residential/Internal Review Assessment

24 people



### Functional Vision Assessment

7 people



### Autism Observation Schedule (ADOS-2)

5 people



### Multidisciplinary Team Assessment

21 people



## National Network Services (continued)

ADOS-2 is a unique and much needed national assessment service, only offered in Ireland by ChildVision. It investigates if children and young adults with a visual impairment have an additional diagnosis of autism. Of the five children and young people assessed in 2021, four received an additional diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. At the time of writing nine children and young people from across Ireland are on the waiting list for an ADOS-2 assessment, and there is a substantial waiting list for each of the other assessments also.

In addition to in-person assessments, on-line advice and support was provided to these and other children, young people and their families.

### Outreach

Outreach was delivered by our team through the Calendar of Events and by providing programmes to children and young people supporting their learning and development. Although we initially planned for an increase in in-person events and activities, the lockdown in January and continuing restrictions meant we needed to meet the challenge creatively. We adopted a flexible blended approach, combining in-person sessions when possible, at home, in the local community and on-campus; with a variety of on-line options. We found that the virtual/on-line element gave us new opportunities to engage with and involve the whole family, including carers and grandparents.

A variety of on-line events for parents, children and young people were planned to ensure that all were provided with ongoing support in their aim to achieve maximum independence and inclusion.

Workshops, groups sessions and summer programme activities for children and young people included information technology, sports, baking and quizzes.

An adventure activity programme originally planned for November is fully booked for its rescheduled date in February 2022.

One of the most popular family events was the Toy Fair on 16 November 2021, it was a clear indication of the success of on-line events. More families are able to participate via Zoom, but would find it difficult or impossible to attend the in-person version of the event. As a result, each calendar event is now provided both in-person (as per COVID-19 restriction guidelines) and on-line, embracing the blended approach. This also has the advantage of widening our geographical reach as we have people participate from Northern Ireland, the UK and all corners of Ireland.

### Programmes for Children and Young People

Due to COVID-19 infection control measures, a Pod system was in place from September 2020 until the end of June 2021. This meant that young people in Term Time Living and Lifelong Learning had a split placement of three days on campus and two days at home.

Our team worked with Social Care, Therapy and Lifelong Learning staff to provide support and programmes on the days the young people are at home. The programmes are developed and delivered in-person and on-line using the following process:

- All staff involved identify programme area and goals.
- Before the programme starts a Health and Safety risk assessment for the activity in the home/local area is carried out.
- After each visit, a report is written up and sent to the link worker and tutor/teacher.
- After each programme, parents/guardians are asked to complete an evaluation.

All families who expressed an interest in outreach were contacted and we worked directly with 40 families in the following counties: Clare, Cork, Dublin, Galway, Kildare, Longford, Louth, Waterford and Wicklow.





## Outreach Programmes

Programme	Benefit to Child/Young Person/Family/Service
<b>Family Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 home visits.</li> <li>• To families of littlest learners to young people up to 24 years.</li> </ul> <p><b>Activities included:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tea and chat - Early Years families especially welcomed the emotional support and the opportunity to 'chat' with someone who understands.</li> <li>• Walks in the park.</li> <li>• Sourcing local courses.</li> <li>• Home visits enabled the child/young person to be seen in their own environment. More information about needs shared between families, link workers, therapists, teachers, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Orientation and Mobility (O&amp;M)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 programmes of 6 lessons each.</li> <li>• Included littlest learners with complex needs to Lifelong learning participants. Programmes included applying skills to learning new local routes.</li> </ul>
<b>On-line Programmes via Zoom</b>	<p><b>8 programmes included:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Socials skills.</li> <li>• Activities of daily living (ADL) advice about marking equipment to make functions easier to see or use – 'bump-ons', audible cues etc.</li> <li>• Assistive technology – focus on facilitating communication/connectedness through learning how to use Zoom and WhatsApp.</li> <li>• Support for continuing course work at home, one young person completed his telephone skills course.</li> </ul>
<b>Computer Skills Programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 external programmes commenced.</li> <li>• Young people supported to source, access and join local computer classes. Included O&amp;M routes to and within centre, confidence building to be able to express requirements to make course accessible to them.</li> </ul>
<b>Therapy/ Communications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration with the Therapy team to continue the delivery of a communication programme at home. Children learning to use communication devices.</li> </ul>

ChildVision has not had the opportunity to do home visits in the past, this has proven to be an invaluable source of support to parents and provided insights and information to adjust programmes to make them more relevant to the child/young person and their family.

The number of home visits was highest when split placements were operating.

## Professional Training

ChildVision is committed to being a learning organisation, creating and expanding opportunities for our staff (people) to develop the specialist knowledge and skills required to provide a professional and innovative service to children and young people with a visual impairment. We continued the initiative started in 2020 to migrate our mandatory courses to a more flexible, blended learning format. Uploading these to our e-Learning platform Moodle is enabling staff access materials at a time and in a place that suits them. Ideally blended learning combines on-line and in-person engagement, allowing staff from different departments meet, get to know one another and share ideas. The in-person element of blended learning was limited in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

## National Network Services (continued)

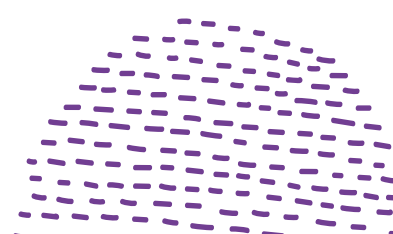
### Staff Development Courses Accessed Through or Uploaded to Moodle in 2021

Course	Description	Number Enrolled
<b>Working Safely During COVID-19</b>	Information about COVID-19 and implications for practice	192
<b>Line Managers Briefing</b>	To implement infection control measures consistently and well-being supports for teams/departments	42
<b>Learn Braille</b>	Learn braille by sight to support braille learners	12
<b>Management of Actual or Potential Aggression (MAPA)</b>	Theory on-line, practical techniques in-person	58
<b>Safer Manual Handling</b>	Theory on-line, practical techniques in-person	192

ChildVision is also committed to sharing our specialist knowledge and skills with professionals and families through workshops and seminars delivered as part of our Parent and Professionals Events Calendar and by the development of courses. Our aim is to create opportunities for children and young people with a visual impairment or visual impairment and complex needs to maximise their independence and to facilitate choice and inclusion.

### Parent and Professionals Events Calendar: On-line Events 2021 – Delivered by ChildVision Staff

Course	Number Attending
How to Assess for Autism Spectrum Disorders in the Visually Impaired x 2	100 +
Orientation and Mobility: An Introduction	26
Cortical Vision Impairment Workshop for Parents and Professionals	23
Accessible Toys Workshop	19
MAPA (Management of Actual or Potential Aggression) Workshop	54
Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult Training Workshop	43
Challenges to Protecting People with Disabilities	29
Equine Assisted Occupational Therapy Workshop	34
An Introduction to Functional Visual Assessment Workshop for Parents and Professionals	29
Mindful Meditation/Wellness at ChildVision	16
Art Therapy: An Introduction for Parents and Professionals	22
Assistive Technology Workshop	26
Mindfulness for Parents/Healthcare Professionals with an Emphasis on Building Resilience and Self-Care Practices	18
Assessment: A Cross-Disciplinary Approach	121
Annual Family Resource Toy Fair	23



These events were attended by professionals from the HSE, disability organisations e.g. CRC, universities, special schools, Early Years services from across Ireland, Northern Ireland and the UK. Parent/carer participation depended on the type of event and its suitability to the age of their child, their attendance was also from an extensive reach across Ireland and Northern Ireland.

The calendar also included bi-weekly on-line workshops run collaboratively between ChildVision and Sight and Sound Technology. The participants, again included professionals and families from all parts of Ireland, Northern Ireland and the UK.

#### **Collaborative ChildVision and Sight and Sound Technology On-line Workshops 2021**

Course	Number Attending
Smart Home and Adaptive Technology	13
3D Printing Demonstration and Workshop	17
Onyx Surface Pro	14
Braille Sense	19
Connect with the Dolphin 'Connect and Learn'	31
Technology Exhibition	19
Orientation and Mobility Technology – A New Way to Walk	10
Functional Vision Assessment Embraces Technology	31
Envision Glasses	17
Zoomtext 10: What's New	14
What's New with Orcam	24
Jaws	13
Reading Services and Assistive Technology at ChildVision	14
Technology and Safety in the Home	14
Let's Learn about Reading Services at ChildVision	14
'Tech' Surgery	17
Assistive Technology	12
Jaws: The Latest in Speech Synthesis	13
Toys and Technology	17



## National Network Services (continued)

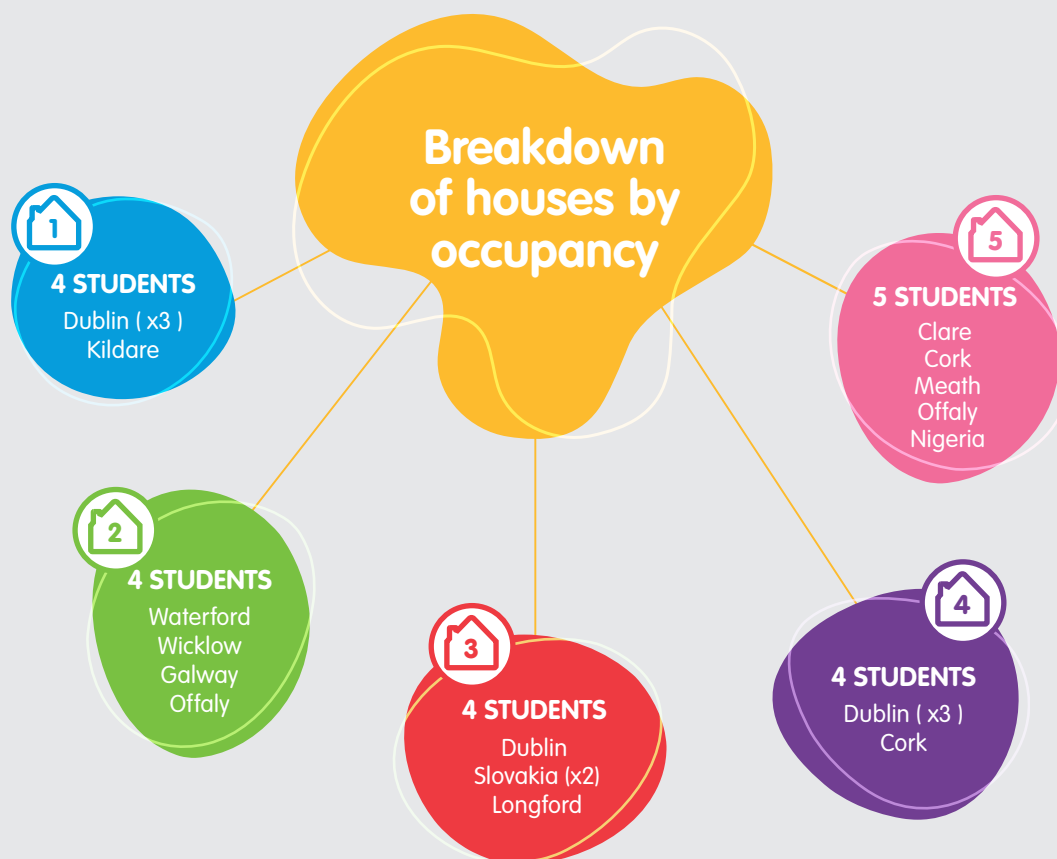
### Course Development: Therapeutic Riding Coach Course

In 2021, ChildVision's Equine Therapy Team designed and wrote the Therapeutic Riding Coach Course as part of a project with AIRE (the Association of Irish Horse Riding Establishments) and Horse Sport Ireland. In November the four-day course was delivered to 10 in-person participants from nine AIRE registered Riding Schools in Leinster (Wicklow, Dublin, Meath and Kildare). This was the first in a series of five courses that will run during 2022 in different locations around Ireland.

ChildVision's Equine Therapy Team provides a unique and highly specialised service to children with complex needs. However, a number of children who have completed their therapy programme are still attending because there isn't an

option to refer them onto a local riding school. This meant the demand for our service exceeding the places available, so the waiting list and waiting time grows. Simultaneously, riding schools from all over Ireland are receiving requests to work with children and adults with disabilities. AIRE and Horse Sport Ireland recognised the need to develop a national network of registered riding schools with qualified Therapeutic Riding Coaches, creating a shared professional standard for therapeutic riding services. This course makes that a reality and will enable ChildVision refer children who have completed their therapy programme to a local riding school. This frees up places for children with complex needs who need our unique and highly specialised service and provides an opportunity for those who have made progress and no longer require a high level of specialism to integrate into an inclusive setting to continue learning.

### Term Time Living - 5 houses



ChildVision operates a term time residential programme to support students from post-primary age plus. We have also recently progressed our service, offering day respite.

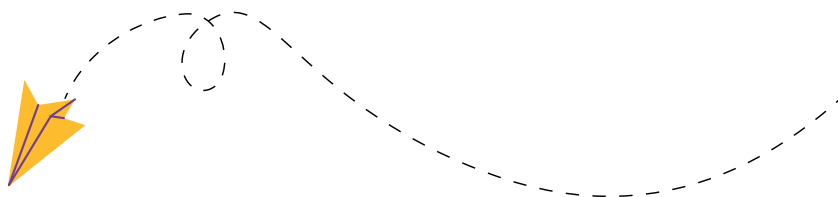
COVID-19 had quite an impact on our service. Social outings and gatherings between other residential houses were common place up until COVID-19 hit. From virtual schooling during lockdowns, to staff reaching out to students via Zoom and phone calls implementing programmes, care plan goals, providing homework support; we did our utmost to keep our service provision at its best whilst we all remained safe at home.

As we made a safe return to full service provision in March 2021, we took on new procedures and protocols to ensure that the health and safety of our young people remained paramount. During this time all students across all of the ChildVision residential houses became quite creative with their social ideas. There were Halloween parties, Zoom quizzes and weekly “tea and chats” all done through Zoom. This gave the students something to look forward to. There was also advocacy training and mindfulness provided for the students through Zoom.

The flexibility of the virtual pathway we created during the initial lockdown of 2020 allowed us to be innovative in responding to our young people’s needs when we fully reopened in September 2021. To protect the pod system recommended by the Government we operated a full week for our young people with three days in situ and two days at home, allowing remote learning and support for those days our young people were at home. Having less numbers in the houses for that short period between March and June 2021 allowed us the time to prepare our young people for a full resumption of service provision in September 2021.

Challenges were many; ensuring health and safety of our young people was paramount but being mindful of the emotional impact COVID-19 was potentially having on our young people was something we responded to in ways we have never had to before. The virtual means of engaging our young people to participate in online dance, drama, mindfulness, social catch ups with peers, 21st Zoom parties, weekly quizzes with the other houses became the new norm as we quietly anticipated the return to and opening of activities within the community. With some initial hesitancy, we began with small baby steps, we opened up our garden to tea parties, purchased new garden furniture and our young people invited their friends to visit and ‘hang out’. Long evenings, under warm blankets and brollies on one occasion brought laughter, fun and endless cups of tea.

As the Government road map to opening society began, we developed new processes, protocols and risk assessments for a safe return to activities within the community. Naturally, our young people were delighted. Drama became a physical meet up from September 2021, visits to coffee shops, restaurants, cinema and bowling became the norm with everyone learning to access their digital cert on their phone. A sense of belonging and a part of a community was embraced by all our young people and that feeling of hope could be felt by all.



# Governance

During 2021 the work of the Governance Committee concentrated on the following responsibilities:

## The ChildVision Board:

- Succession and nomination
- A skills audit
- Recruitment and induction policies
- Annual evaluation
- Staff matters - senior management performance and succession planning, and remuneration policy
- Business Continuation Planning
- Governance Review
- Compliance matters
- Governance Code - annual compliance return

## Governance Review

In the Spring of 2021, the Board commissioned a review of the functioning of current governance of ChildVision, including a comprehensive assessment of the roles and responsibilities, structures, protocols, and development requirements.

The review involved meetings and interviews with all Board members, senior managers and L&P as Company Secretary; a desk-based assessment of governance decision-making procedures and relevant documentation; a review of the regulatory and compliance frameworks applying to ChildVision; and a comparative assessment, against the requirements of company and charities law and the guidance of the Charities Regulator, in relation to high standards in governance.





The review identified interlinked issues which warranted consideration and action. They related to processes and procedures to support the organisation in all aspects of governance; leadership and guidance in setting strategic direction and mission; development of people; and maintaining high standards of compliance and oversight.

The Governance development priorities were identified within this landscape.

The Review Report was presented to the Board in July 2021 with twelve recommendations:

1. A **review of the current Strategic Plan** due to run to end 2023 and its adequacy, alignment and effectiveness, and a decision to proceed to its conclusion or to initiate a new planning process.
2. Design and implementation of a **Board/SMT Governance Development Plan**, with a significant focus on joint activity to accelerate shared understanding of governance principles and practice, and to maintain a high degree of organisational, sectoral and policy knowledge.
3. **Formalisation of Chair/CEO meetings** outside Board meetings, to reinforce the focus on strategic direction and decision-making consistency.
4. Development of the function of **internal governance coordination led by and within** office of the CEO, and *supported* by L&P as Company Secretary, and of **internal governance leadership and systems**, to coordinate the flow of quality information, and support planning of effective SMT/Board and Sub Committee meetings, for consistent decision-making, prompt attention to issues and tracking to full implementation/ conclusion.
5. **Allocation of the supports** required to resource the work, develop good practice and embed the systems for internal governance administration practice and accountability.
6. Development of Board thinking on **the senior management team structure and succession planning**, following agreement on the appropriate strategy for the organisation.
7. **Revision of Board and sub-committee** agendas to ensure progression of strategic priorities, key developments, decision making requirements, and oversight matters.
8. **Well designed information systems** to enable reporting of information and analysis relevant to both the Board, Sub Committees and the CEO/SMT.
9. **As governance policies and systems are improved**, adoption of policy accompanied by planned implementation by the Executive.

10. **A redesign of the reports** to the Board and the Board Pack ensuring concise, timely and relevant information.

11. **A table mapping against the strategic plan** indicating progress, exceptions, challenges and outcomes and sign-posting next opportunities or challenges and long-term factors to inform thinking about what is best for our children and young people.

12. **Development of systematic approaches to effective delegation**, with explicit briefs, allocation of tasks and supportive procedures and tracking through to a final decision or conclusion.

By year end, work on the recommendations was underway with the aim of implementing all recommendations during 2022.

## Governance roles – definitions for recommendation to Board

### Board

Responsible for ensuring CV achieves its mission – the intended social outcome - through:

- a. effective strategic development/direction well informed by the community we serve;
- b. overseeing implementation of strategy/agreed mission driven plans;
- c. oversight of compliance/regulation and the efficient operation of the organisation.

### Sub Committees (Standing)

A 'clearing house' for matters coming to the Board, and/or where more in-depth consideration of issues (strategic/ oversight) happens; a place to fine-tune the information/ basis for discussion/recommendations to come to the Board; providing support/guidance in specific areas to the management team responsible for delivering the strategy and overall management of CV.

### Sub Board structures – time bound

The Board may agree other working groups/task forces if required, which will be time bound, with terms of reference, membership, and role defined.

### Chair

Oversight of Board effectiveness; Meeting with the CEO in preparation for/follow-up to Board meetings; advising on and giving final assent to the Board agendas and meeting arrangements; chairing Board meetings.

## Governance (continued)

### CEO

Implementation of governance standards; leading preparation of draft Board agendas/meeting planning; overseeing coordination of the information necessary to enable the Board to do its job; implementing decisions.

### SMT

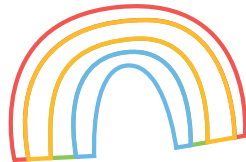
Ensuring that at all times the sub comms and the Board have the necessary information for informed discussion and decision-making to guide and support the CEO/SMT and deliver good governance.

### Office of the CEO - Governance Secretariat

Coordinating and organising all sub comm and Board meetings in a timely manner; tracking issues across Board and s/cs for inclusion in relevant meetings; ensuring that all documentation including agendas, accompanying documents and reports are circulated on time; making meeting and IT arrangements; circulating material after meetings as agreed with the Chair.

### L&P - Company Secretary

Ensuring all legal/regulatory/compliance/good governance practice standards are being met by the Company; making CRO and CRA returns; advising and guiding the Board, CEO and the Secretariat on these matters; arranging AGMs/EGMs with the support of the CEO/office of the CEO; carrying out occasional audits of governance practices and recommending improvements.



# Risk Management

At ChildVision, we are committed to proactively managing all risk associated with providing our services in healthcare, social care supports and educational support. We have a detailed risk management framework to help us manage risk at all levels across the organisation. Managed risk-taking is essential for growth, development and innovation across all the services that we provide.

During 2021, we continued to develop our ability to manage risk in the organisation. As well as managing our organisational risk we are committed to providing support to our service users in a manner which promotes their rights, independence and social inclusion. As we continued to adapt and respond to the challenges of the pandemic, it was critical that we could continue to rely on our detailed risk management framework.

As we adapted to the risk of COVID-19 we managed our transformation in a safe and risk aware way. We worked in partnership with our staff, clients, stakeholders, funders and regulators to ensure we could continue to provide safe, effective and person-centred care to all our service users. We continued to maintain our Risk Register in line with our risk management framework, drawing from all areas of the organisation. We reviewed and managed this register at our Senior Management Team meetings and this was reviewed and overseen by the Audit and Compliance Committee and Board.

## Risk Management Framework and Risk Appetite

The effective management of risk requires the involvement of people at every level of our organisation. We are committed to ensuring that risk is identified, managed

and reduced through implementing our risk management framework. This framework consists of the frontline management of risk by department managers and escalation through local risk registers.

These local risk registers are then used to update the overall Company Risk Register to help identify strategic risk. Risk is governed by our Audit and Compliance Committee which reports to our Board of Directors. However all risk deemed relevant for other Board Sub-Committees are made available during the year. This comprehensive framework for managing risk ensures the appropriate management of risk.

In keeping with our risk framework, we have several lines of defence to support risk assurance:

- **Level 1:** Local management and operations are guided by approved policies, procedures and processes.
- **Level 2:** We rely on our formal risk management structures in tandem with our incident reporting system.
- **Level 3:** Our internal audit team, RSM and our external auditors Crowe Howarth.

This overall approach runs parallel with our obligations to regulators and funders.

Our risk appetite statement sets out the level of risk acceptable to the ChildVision in key areas. Risk 'tolerance' is the minimum and maximum risk we are willing to accept. While we advocate for our service users' rights to engage in positive risk-taking, we will support them to realise their potential, working within the limits of the risk appetite statement.





# Risk management (continued)

## Risk Appetite

ChildVision operates within a high overall risk range due to the nature of our clients and Services. Risks can be analysed into the following categories:

### Operational:

Risk that policies, procedures, systems or activities would fail, thus, restricting progress towards achieving organisational objectives.

### Financial:

Risk of failing to safeguard the organisations assets, financial misreporting or failure to achieve value for money.

### Strategic:

Risk that the organisation would take a strategic direction or engage in activity at variance with its mission statement or fundamental objectives.

### Reputational:

Risk that the organisation would engage in activities or be perceived to engage in activities that would threaten its good name brand and public image.

However, ChildVision has a low appetite to avoidable risk in relations to safety and compliance objectives of the organisation, including student and staff health and safety. ChildVision has a low risk appetite towards its reputational, strategic, reporting, and operations objectives. This means that reducing to reasonably practicable levels the risks originating from the delivery of services to children, and the public while our legal obligations will take priority over other business objectives.

ChildVision maintains a Risk Register which allows for the capture of risk information from the 'bottom up' within ChildVision. The risk register will be the primary tool for risk tracking, containing the overall system of risks and the status of any risk mitigation actions.

The use of a consistent approach to risk management is set out in the company's policies and procedures in order to assure good risk management at all levels and areas within ChildVision. The risk management cycle within ChildVision incorporates the following elements:

ChildVision monitors and review corporate risk register on a regular basis.

Risks are rated as High, Medium and Low based on the scales set out in ChildVision's risk policies. The table below provides an overview of the risks identified, together with the ratings for residual risks.

	High	Medium	Low
Number of risks	4	29	21





The four high risk identified as a result of the risk review are as follows:

### **Risk 1: IT servers are unstable and have resulted in outages**

#### **Movement**

- This was an emergent risk in 2021 and it increased as the year progressed.

#### **Principle Control Measures**

- IT Strategy to be in place.
- Investment in servers.
- Recruitment of strong IT team.
- Use of outside providers for specific areas of expertise.

#### **Focus for 2021 and 2022**

- We have revised our IT strategy in early 2022 using outside expertise.
- We have invested in IT infrastructure in late 2021 and early 2022.
- We have strengthened our IT team in 2021.
- We have identified and appointed a specialist IT outsource partner in early 2022.

### **Risk 2: Inherent infrastructural defects of the building due to age of the Premises**

#### **Movement**

- No movement from the previous year.

#### **Principle Control Measures**

- Devise and implement a campus redevelopment project.
- Seek funding for the redevelopment.
- Seek planning permission for the redevelopment.
- Appoint advisors to help identify and resolve defects in the building and ensure resolved as part of the campus redevelopment.

#### **Focus for 2021 and 2022**

- Campus redevelopment plan devised in 2020 and 2021.
- Funding plans have been put in place to fund the redevelopment plans – Funding will take a number of years to be received.
- Planning permission was sought in 2021 and received in 2022 pending resolution of certain objections from interested parties.
- We are in the process of appointing relevant advisors.

### **Risk 3: Temporary loss of key experienced staff**

#### **Movement**

- Increased from the previous year given historical pay scales.

#### **Principle Control Measures**

- HR policies and procedures in place.
- Cross training.
- Succession planning.

#### **Focus for 2022**

- Renewed and revised succession planning.
- Address the historical pay scales we are paying when finances allow.

### **Risk 4: Reduction in fundraising**

#### **Movement**

- Increased from previous years given impact of COVID-19.

#### **Principle Control Measures**

- Budgeting and forecasting.
- Market knowledge.
- Adherence to highest codes of practice across fundraising and GDPR.
- Revised Fundraising Strategy.

#### **Focus for 2022**

- Revise and implement Fund Raising Strategy.



## Risk management (continued)

The following describes the key risk areas and the tolerance acceptable to us.

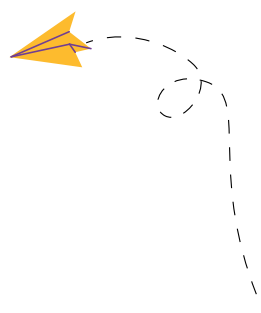
Theme	Tolerance Level	Specific Areas
Quality	Strongly averse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poor quality care</li><li>• Unacceptable clinical risk</li><li>• Non-compliance with national and professional standards</li><li>• Poor clinical or professional practice</li></ul>
Safety	Strongly averse	Safeguarding vulnerable children and adults
Service Delivery and Design	Moderately averse	If consistent with the achievement of client safety and quality improvements
Finance	Strongly averse	Only consider exceeding this limit if financial response is required to mitigate risk associated with service user safety
Workforce	Zero tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unprofessional conduct, bullying</li><li>• Competence to perform roles or tasks safely Incidents which may compromise the safety of others</li></ul>
Regulation	Strongly averse	Non-compliance with legislation/regulatory frameworks in which we operate
Information	Zero tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data protection breaches</li><li>• Non-compliance with data protection and/or privacy legislation/regulatory information governance</li></ul>
Reputation	Zero tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Breaches in high standards of conduct/ethics/professionalism</li><li>• Risks or circumstances that could cause reputational damage to ChildVision or our stakeholders</li></ul>
Technology and Innovation	Moderately averse	Will consider risk associated with new technologies if this enables us to realise innovative care solutions, safety improvements or efficiency gains

### Education, Training and Support

We are committed to ensuring our staff have the knowledge, skills and training required to manage risk proactively. We work with all departments to ensure our risk management systems are robust and in place. We encouraged and supported staff to be innovative and transformative when managing risk, particularly when supporting person-centred care, throughout COVID-19 restrictions. We ensured all our staff were trained in infection prevention and control methods and the correct use of personal protective equipment. We also worked closely with our clients and their families, carers and advocates to ensure a holistic and personalised approach to risk throughout the pandemic.

### Plans for 2022

Inevitably some of our ambitious plans for 2021 were interrupted. However, our commitment to risk avoidance remained fully in place. The different Board Subcommittees reporting to the Board ensured that all crucial areas of concern were risk-assessed and progressed as appropriate. For 2022 and beyond the risk team together with the Board and senior management team will agree a priority list for progression, for the items identified in our risk assessments.



## Audit and Evaluation

Our internal audit team assures that all risk management governance and internal control processes are effective. We have appointed a third-party internal auditor allows us to be fully transparent and provides our Board with an independent level of scrutiny. While the internal audit provides this assurance, it also provides consultation and expertise on how we can improve our systems and processes. Internal audits cover both financial-related matters but also include all risk profile areas across ChildVision in our annual audit plan. Our Board Audit Committee sets the audit plan for the year ahead and tracks progress against audits throughout the year.

## Child Protection

All of ChildVision's activities and undertakings are premised on a strong commitment to put child protection and vulnerable adult protection at the heart of everything we do. This commitment is expressed in our strict adherence to relevant legislation, child protection and vulnerable adult guidance documents and, in a suite of in-house policies and procedures. These all contribute to an organisational culture which seeks to demonstrate a zero tolerance of abuse of any kind.

Regular child protection and vulnerable adult staff training, encompassing in-person training and on-line training, is required of all staff working in frontline roles and all staff,

including volunteers. All staff are Garda vetted at regular intervals. Recognising that disability adds further complexity to the area of good safeguarding practice, our in-house training addresses these complexities and requires staff to reflect on the continuous improvements needed to ensure they act in a person-centred, dignified and respectful manner in their interactions with children, young people and their families.

Listening to our young people is a core organisational value, as is being alert to any and all signs of abuse. At senior management team level the organisational risk register is utilised to ensure child protection and vulnerable adult protection is regulatory and rigorously reviewed.

As required by the Children First Act 2015, ChildVision has a Child Safeguarding Statement. This statement sets out all potential risks to children availing of our service as identified in a comprehensive risk assessment and outlines the procedures in place to reduce these risks. In addition, ChildVision maintains a list of its mandated persons, all of whom have a statutory function to report any concerns about child abuse to the authorities. We also have a fully trained in-house child and vulnerable adult protection officer, available as a resource to staff, who regularly advises ChildVision's board on child protection and vulnerable protection best practice and all other relevant matters.



# Report of the Directors

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

## 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 dedicated to the care of the blind in Ireland since the 1850's, 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 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 for so 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 pre-school 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 (Rosminian) CLG 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, including 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 73. It is with great sadness that we note the death of one of our directors, Gareth Jones. Gareth passed away on 9th of 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 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 2021

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 textbook 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 employs 141 staff. There were only 18 volunteers on campus last year working across equine, 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 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a more permanent and fluid work from home policy for non-service delivery staff at ChildVision, this required enhanced IT supports. The organisation procured and implemented a new service wide CRM system for recording and reporting on our impact. The safety of our children and young people was paramount and the reduced footfall on campus meant most services were returned to full capacity. Regrettably our campus remained closed to the public impacting on our donor events and social enterprise income. In response, a new website was launched with greater online resources for parents and children, work commenced also on bringing an e-commerce section to the site, giving donors and supporters renewed ways of supporting our work.

ChildVision have met the main objectives of their strategy 2018-2023 ahead of time and in 2021 began the process of planning and scoping the work for a new three-year strategic plan interrogating the vision, mission and how we work to deliver in partnership with our stakeholders. The new strategy will be completed in 2022.

During 2021, the board adopted a new fundraising strategy to support the strategic objectives of the organisation. The strategy aims to build a sustainable model of funding for the organisation, growing the fundraising team from one to a minimum of four, keeping the service supports static but generating surplus to capital intake and build-up of reserves. The Capital Philanthropy plan seeks to raise funds towards the build of a world class equine therapy centre, further supporting the National Campus of Excellence for which significant capital funding has already been secured and planning will be submitted in 2022.

Despite the continuing volatility of COVID-19, the Board continues with renewed confidence to meet the strategic objectives of the organisation:

- 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.

## 4. Review of the Year

### 4.1 Income and Expenditure

#### Income

ChildVision is financed by a mix of state and voluntary funding. In 2021, ChildVision raised a total income of €7,665,852 (2020 €7,380,584) for charitable purposes, an increase of €285,268. This result was achieved despite a backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic 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 84% which increased in 2021 by €259,216. The increase was principally because increased grant amounts received in 2021 in relation to pay restoration and contribution towards some capital spending and increased overhead costs
- Fundraising activity (€806,074 down 1% on 2020); and
- The balance from on-campus social enterprises and rental income (€376,026 down 3% on 2020 –primarily due to the effects 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 2021 was €8,064,177 (2020 €7,332,783). This represents an increase of €731,394. The main underlying reasons for the increase in expenditure relate to:

- Increased salary costs as we restored some historic pay cuts for staff.
- Increased fundraising costs relating to capital amounts received for the campus redevelopment fund.
- Increased rents as we increased our residential houses by one home and saw rents increase generally due to rental inflation.
- General inflationary pressures.

Our charitable activities accounted for 86 per cent of all our expenditure (88 percent in 2020).

Capital expenditure during the year included:

- Purchase of three vehicles as we started to update our fleet.
- IT/Assistive Technology Equipment.
- Physiotherapy Equipment.
- Design work on the new Campus re-development.

# Report of the directors (continued)

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

## 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 2021, ChildVision had funds of €2,025,265 (2020 €2,423,590). Of this, €495,989 (2020 €574,520) is held for restricted purposes, as the funds were donated for specific projects or services.

At 31 December 2021, the unrestricted funds amounted to €1,529,276 (2020 €1,849,070). The directors have set a target that cash reserves are sufficient to provide for two months 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 to 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, 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 and throughout 2021, 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. Subsequent to the year end the government lifted the majority of COVID-19 restrictions. However, there still remains significant uncertainty and restrictions could be reintroduced.

The war in Ukraine, which commenced on 24 February 2022, has increased a number of general business risks. Some of these risks were evident prior to February but some of them are now more uncertain in their likelihood and impact. These include potential disruptions to energy supplies alongside a sharp increase in prices, the possibility of supply chain disturbances and the potential for further increases in price levels, as well as a reduction in economic activity and the level of consumer spending.

## 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 2020 and 2021, the COVID-19 virus spread worldwide. Subsequent to the year end, the government lifted the majority of COVID-19 restrictions. In addition, the war in Ukraine has increased a number of general business risks.



The directors are not expecting to make any significant changes in the nature of the business in the near future.

## 9. Lobbying and Political Donations

There were no political donations in 2020 and 2021, 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 Grace Park Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9.

## 11. Plans for the Future

During 2021, the CEO of the HSE Mr Paul Reid confirmed Capital Expenditure funding towards the New Campus of Excellence was committed and a project team assigned to oversee the build. Extensive consultation with planning officers in Dublin City Council were held to ensure the heritage aspects of our site were acknowledged and respected within the context of the new campus plans and preparations finalised to submit planning in early 2022. The Capital Philanthropy ask was defined and has entered the initial planning phase.

In parallel, we continued to provide 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 2021 ensuring we are ready for the constant 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.

As far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and the directors 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  
26 May 2022

# 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  
26 May 2022

# 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 2021, 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' and in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)" ("Charities SORP").

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2021 and of its net movement in funds for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 as applied with regard to the Charities SORP; and
- 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.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the 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 the Companies Act 2014.

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.

## 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.

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

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

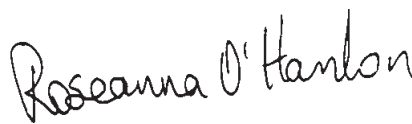
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee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



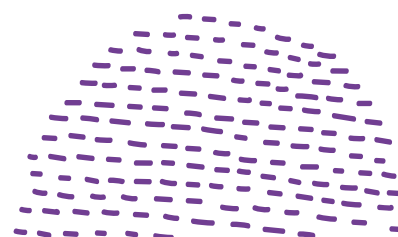
**Roseanna O'Hanlon**

For and on behalf of:



Crowe Ireland  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
40 Mespil Road, Dublin 4.

26 May 2022





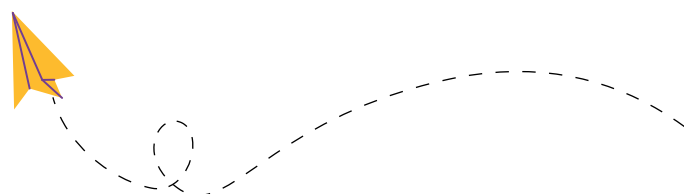
# Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total 2020 €
<b>Income and endowments from</b>							
Donations and legacies	4	597,054	51,144	648,198	455,876	210,137	666,013
Other trading activities	5	533,902	-	533,902	533,155	-	533,155
Charitable activities	6	22,853	6,460,891	6,483,744	2,663	6,178,646	6,181,309
Investment	8	8	-	8	107	-	107
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>1,153,817</b>	<b>6,512,035</b>	<b>7,665,852</b>	<b>991,801</b>	<b>6,388,783</b>	<b>7,380,584</b>
<b>Expenditure on</b>							
Charitable activities	10	375,131	6,586,503	6,961,634	395,595	6,065,128	6,460,723
Raising funds	11	1,101,304	-	1,101,304	872,060	-	872,060
Other (income)/expenditure	13	( 2,824)	4,063	1,239	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,473,611</b>	<b>6,590,566</b>	<b>8,064,177</b>	<b>1,267,655</b>	<b>6,065,128</b>	<b>7,332,783</b>
<b>NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS</b>		<b>( 319,794)</b>	<b>( 78,531)</b>	<b>( 398,325)</b>	<b>(275,854)</b>	<b>323,655</b>	<b>47,801</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	26/27	<b>1,849,070</b>	<b>574,520</b>	<b>2,423,590</b>	<b>2,124,924</b>	<b>250,865</b>	<b>2,375,789</b>
<b>TOTAL FUND CARRIED FORWARD</b>	26/27	<b>1,529,276</b>	<b>495,989</b>	<b>2,025,265</b>	<b>1,849,070</b>	<b>574,520</b>	<b>2,423,590</b>

All income and expenditure arises from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 58 to 72 form part of these financial statements.



# Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2021

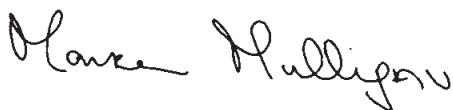
	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	18	2,229,325	2,160,005
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	19	60,408	183,443
Stocks	20	1,478	3,357
Cash at bank and in hand	21	5,662,306	3,448,496
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>5,724,192</b>	<b>3,635,296</b>
<b>CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)</b>	22	<b>(4,878,252)</b>	<b>(2,284,211)</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>845,940</b>	<b>1,351,085</b>
<b>CREDITORS (amounts falling due after one year)</b>	23	<b>(1,050,000)</b>	<b>(1,087,500)</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<b>2,025,265</b>	<b>2,423,590</b>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>			
Unrestricted funds	26	1,529,276	1,849,070
Restricted funds	27	495,989	574,520
<b>TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS</b>		<b>2,025,265</b>	<b>2,423,590</b>

The notes on pages 58 to 72 form part of these financial statements.

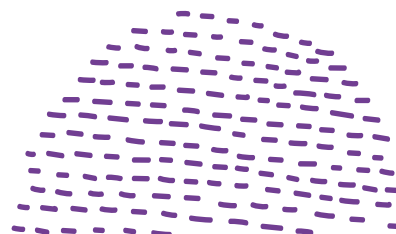
The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 26 May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Shane Cowley



Maureen Mulligan

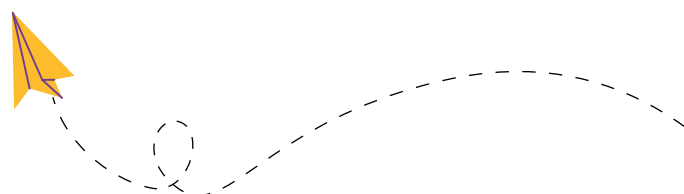


# Cashflow Statement

as at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	29	<b>2,397,052</b>	1,795,745
NET CASH (USED IN)/GENERATED FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	29	<b>(126)</b>	54
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES	29	<b>(415,308)</b>	(227,830)
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD	30	<b>1,981,618</b>	1,567,969
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	30	<b>3,444,490</b>	1,876,521
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	30	<b>5,426,108</b>	3,444,490

The notes on pages 58 to 72 form part of these financial statements.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2021

## 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

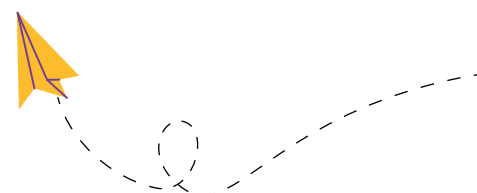
All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is entitled to the income and the amount can be measured with reasonable accuracy and is probable. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

**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.

## 2.11 Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2021

## 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

### 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.

### 3. Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty (continued)

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.

#### Income recognition

The company makes assumptions when estimating the value of deferred income. The company reviews the progress of all projects on an on-going basis and adjusts the deferred income as deemed appropriate.

### 4. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €	Restricted Funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €
Donations	597,054	51,144	<b>648,198</b>	455,876	210,137	666,013

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 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €
Income from commercial social enterprises	<b>275,725</b>	281,573
Fundraising campaigns and events	<b>157,876</b>	144,958
Rental income	<b>100,301</b>	106,624
	<b>533,902</b>	533,155

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 2021. 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 2021

## 6. Income from Charitable Activities

		Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €	Restricted Funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €
Notes							
Health Service Executive	(a)	-	4,885,385	<b>4,885,385</b>	-	4,779,165	4,779,165
Department of Education	(b)	-	1,327,874	<b>1,327,874</b>	-	1,325,867	1,325,867
Other performance grants	(c)	-	247,632	<b>247,632</b>	-	73,614	73,614
All other sources of income	(c)	22,853	-	<b>22,853</b>	2,663	-	2,663
		22,853	6,460,891	<b>6,483,744</b>	2,663	6,178,646	6,181,309

(a) ChildVision is a 'Section 39 organisation' and receives funding from Health Service Executive as assistance towards a wide range of services including the provision of pre-school, residential care, Life Long 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. State Funding

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €
HSE Dublin North/Dublin North Central/Dublin West	<b>4,531,114</b>	4,479,739
HSE Other West/North west	<b>13,000</b>	13,000
HSE Community Healthcare East	<b>21,000</b>	21,000
HSE Other South/South West	<b>30,000</b>	25,000
HSE South East Community Healthcare	<b>26,427</b>	26,427
HSE Ireland East	<b>60,000</b>	40,000
HSE Dublin North East/Dublin Midlands	<b>118,005</b>	99,999
HSE Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation	<b>75,919</b>	74,000
HSE other	<b>9,920</b>	-
Pobal - Early Childhood Care and Educational	<b>93,439</b>	62,664
Pobal - Dormant accounts fund	<b>118,173</b>	-
Department of Education - Braille Grant	<b>1,280,000</b>	1,280,000
Department of Education - Executive Salary grant	<b>47,874</b>	45,867
Dublin County Council - School Meals	<b>9,795</b>	7,754
	<b>6,434,666</b>	6,175,450

Included in Total income are the above amounts which have been received for Government agencies. In addition income of €2,400,000 (2020 €1,600,000) was received from the Immigrant Investor Programme (IIP) which is managed by the Department of Justice and this income has been deferred, as set out in note 22.



## 8. Investment

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €
Investment income	8	107
	<b>8</b>	<b>107</b>

## 9. Interest Payable and Similar Charges

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €
On bank overdrafts	134	45
Lease finance charges and hire purchase interest	-	8
	<b>134</b>	<b>53</b>

## 10. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €	Restricted Funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €
Provision of education and related services	171,731	4,367,909	<b>4,539,640</b>	182,957	4,097,096	4,280,053
Provision of residential services	301	221,172	<b>221,473</b>	-	151,215	151,215
All other services and charitable activities	124,760	1,997,422	<b>2,122,182</b>	157,140	1,816,817	1,973,957
Governance Costs (see note 12c)	78,339	-	<b>78,339</b>	55,498	-	55,498
	<b>375,131</b>	<b>6,586,503</b>	<b>6,961,634</b>	<b>395,595</b>	<b>6,065,128</b>	<b>6,460,723</b>

Of ChildVision's expenditure, 86 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 2021, the overall production was 6,951 compared to 6,831 in 2020.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2021

## 11. Cost of Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €
Payroll costs of raising funds	217,651	256,781
Commercial enterprises	212,420	166,859
Other costs of raising funds	662,527	442,254
Governance Costs (see note 12c)	8,706	6,166
	<b>1,101,304</b>	872,060

Generation of funds accounts for approximately 14% of expenditure (2020: 12%). 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.

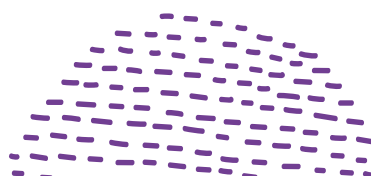
## 12. Support Costs and Allocation of Expenditure

### (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	5,682,643	813,685	67,255	6,563,583
Depreciation of fixed assets	307,249	-	-	307,249
Allocation of support costs	893,403	278,913	21,029	1,193,345
	<b>6,883,295</b>	<b>1,092,598</b>	<b>88,284</b>	<b>8,064,177</b>



## 12. Support Costs and Allocation of Expenditure (continued)

### (c) Governance Costs

	Raising Funds €	Charitable Activities €	2021 €	2020 €
Company secretarial services	1,169	10,516	<b>11,685</b>	11,590
External governance review	2,210	19,887	<b>22,097</b>	-
Wages and salaries	2,103	18,926	<b>21,029</b>	20,421
Internal audit	615	5,535	<b>6,150</b>	4,538
External audit	2,005	18,044	<b>20,049</b>	19,065
Pension audit	604	5,431	<b>6,035</b>	6,050
	<b>8,706</b>	<b>78,339</b>	<b>87,045</b>	61,664

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. One family member of a director was caretaking one of the company's properties which was vacant and was not charged a rent. There were no other 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.

## 13. Other (Income)/Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €	Total 2020 €
(Gain)/loss on disposal of tangible assets	(2,824)	4,063	1,239	-

## 14. Net Movement in Funds

	2021 €	2020 €
Net movement in funds is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	307,249	312,565
Auditors remuneration		
– Statutory audit	20,049	19,065
Operating lease rentals – Buildings	206,879	120,200

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2021

## 15. Employees and Staff Costs

The average number of employees (full-time, part-time and hourly rated) during the year was 141 (140 in 2020).

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

	2021 €	2020 €
Wages and salaries	4,980,103	4,779,771
Social welfare costs	537,812	498,202
Pension costs	280,061	248,334
	5,797,976	5,526,307

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

Salary Range	2021	2020	Employer Pension Contribution 2021 €	Employer Pension Contribution 2020 €
€60,001 - €70,000	-	3	-	13,511
€70,001 - €80,000	2	3	9,995	10,623
€80,001 - €90,000	2	1	11,580	5,878
€90,001 - €100,000	3	1	19,000	-
€100,001 - €110,000	-	-	-	-
€110,001 - €120,000	1	1	8,088	7,861

The CEO was paid a salary of €114,208 by ChildVision in the year.

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

### Key Management Personnel

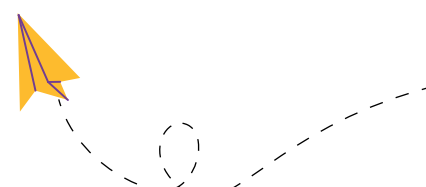
Key management personnel include the CEO and the senior management team for whom the total remuneration cost was €638,204 (2020: €586,492) in the year. Pension contributions were €43,601 (2020: €33,913).

## 16. 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 €280,061 (€248,334 in 2020).

## 17. Taxation

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





## 18. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Plant and machinery €	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Motor vehicles €	Land & Buildings €	Building Renovations €	Total €
COST						
At 1 January 2021	419,691	1,588,764	341,734	1,264,370	703,158	4,317,717
Additions	89,508	71,074	88,706	70,479	63,292	383,059
Disposals	( 840)	( 17,746)	( 60,287)	-	-	( 78,873)
At 31 December 2021	508,359	1,642,092	370,153	1,334,849	766,450	4,621,903
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 January 2021	352,605	1,209,286	305,388	-	290,433	2,157,712
Charge for the year	72,490	118,212	39,902	-	76,645	307,249
On disposals	( 840)	( 13,247)	( 58,296)	-	-	( 72,383)
At 31 December 2021	424,255	1,314,251	286,994	-	367,078	2,392,578
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 December 2021	84,104	327,841	83,159	1,334,849	399,372	2,229,325
At 31 December 2020	67,086	379,478	36,346	1,264,370	412,725	2,160,005

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

## 19. Debtors

	2021 €	2020 €
Amounts owed by connected parties (note 31)	<b>16,634</b>	110,089
Other debtors	<b>29,527</b>	51,456
Prepayments	<b>14,247</b>	21,898
	<b>60,408</b>	183,443

## 20. Stocks

	2021 €	2020 €
Food and beverage stock	<b>1,478</b>	3,357

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2021

## 21. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2021 €	2020 €
Cash in bank	5,662,306	3,448,496

## 22. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 €	2020 €
Bank overdraft	236,198	4,006
Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts (note 24)	-	403
Trade creditors	132,063	88,800
Accruals	273,230	408,442
Deferred income	4,000,000	1,600,000
Payroll taxes	186,370	131,767
Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	37,500	37,500
Value Added Tax	12,891	13,293
	4,878,252	2,284,211

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

## 23. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 €	2020 €
Loan - Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	1,050,000	1,087,500

The movement in the Loan from the Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG was as follows:

	2021 €	2020 €
Opening balance	1,125,000	1,171,875
Loan repayments	( 37,500)	(46,875)
	1,087,500	1,125,000

## 24. Net Obligations Under Finance Leases and Hire Purchase Contracts

	2021 €	2020 €
Not later than one year	-	403

## 25. Reconciliation of Net Assets

	Unrestricted funds €	Restricted funds €	Total funds €
Tangible assets	2,229,325	-	2,229,325
Current assets	1,228,203	4,495,989	5,724,192
Creditors	( 1,928,252)	( 4,000,000)	( 5,928,252)
Net assets	1,529,276	495,989	2,025,265

## 26. Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at beginning of year €	Incoming resources €	Resources expended €	Balance at end of year €
<b>Unrestricted funds 2021</b>	<b>1,849,070</b>	<b>1,153,817</b>	<b>( 1,473,611)</b>	<b>1,529,276</b>
Unrestricted funds 2020	2,124,924	991,801	( 1,267,655)	1,849,070

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.

## 27. Restricted Funds

	Balance at beginning of year €	Incoming resources €	Resources expended €	Balance at end of year €
<b>Restricted funds 2021</b>	<b>574,520</b>	<b>6,512,035</b>	<b>( 6,590,566)</b>	<b>495,989</b>
Restricted funds 2020	250,865	6,388,783	( 6,065,128)	574,520

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

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2021

## 28. Details of Borrowings

<b>Maturity analysis</b>	<b>Within 1 year €</b>	<b>Between 1 &amp; 2 years €</b>	<b>Between 2 &amp; 5 years €</b>	<b>After 5 years €</b>	<b>Total €</b>
REPAYABLE OTHER THAN BY INSTALMENTS					
Bank overdraft	236,198	-	-	-	236,198
REPAYABLE IN INSTALMENTS					
Loan Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	37,500	37,500	112,500	900,000	1,087,500
At end of year	273,698	37,500	112,500	900,000	1,323,698

A loan for €1,200,000 was received from the Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG, in 2017.

## 29. Cash Flows

	<b>2021 €</b>	<b>2020 €</b>
<b>Net cash generated from operating activities</b>		
Net Movement of funds	( 398,325)	47,801
<b>Adjustments:</b>		
Depreciation	307,249	312,565
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,239	-
Decrease/(Increase) in stock	1,879	(1,133)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	123,035	(137,340)
Increase in creditors	2,361,849	1,573,906
Interest receivable	( 8)	(107)
Interest payable	134	53
	<b>2,397,052</b>	<b>1,795,745</b>
<b>Net cash generated from/(used in) financing activities</b>		
Interest received	8	107
Interest paid	( 134)	(45)
Interest element of finance lease rental payments	-	(8)
	<b>( 126)</b>	<b>54</b>
Net cash used in investing activities		
Payments to acquire tangible assets	( 383,059)	(180,955)
Receipts from sale of tangible assets	5,251	-
Loan repayments - Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	( 37,500)	(46,875)
	<b>( 415,308)</b>	<b>(227,830)</b>



### 30. Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalents

	Opening balance €	Cash flows €	Closing balance €
Cash at bank and in hand	3,448,496	2,213,810	5,662,306
Overdrafts	( 4,006)	( 232,192)	( 236,198)
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,444,490	1,981,618	5,426,108

### 31. 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 €190,900 and €50,000 in pastoral services.

Included within Debtors is an amount due from MPC Learning Tree of €16,634. The Learning Tree shares common members with the company. MPC Learning Tree had a related party transaction of €182,630 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 €11,685 (€11,638 in 2020).

### 32. Commitments Under Operating Leases

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

	2021 €	2020 €
Not later than one year	<b>231,000</b>	145,200
Later than one year and not later than five years	<b>924,000</b>	580,800

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 €440,100 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 2021

## 35. Going Concern

Net movement of funds in the year was a deficit of €398,325 and the company has net current assets of €845,940 and total net assets of €2,025,265 at the year end. 2021 saw the COVID-19 pandemic significantly affect the world economy and more particularly society and business in Ireland. Subsequent to the year end the government lifted the majority of COVID-19 restrictions. However there still remains significant uncertainty and restrictions could be reintroduced. The 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 and cash flow projections 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 2021 and have continued to effect operations of ChildVision. More recent easing of restrictions and the roll out of vaccines has eased operating conditions. Subsequent to the year end the government lifted the majority of COVID-19 restrictions. 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.

The war in Ukraine, which commenced on 24 February 2022, has increased a number of general business risks. Some of these risks were evident prior to February but some of them are now more uncertain in their likelihood and impact. These include potential disruptions to energy supplies alongside a sharp increase in prices, the possibility of supply chain disturbances and the potential for further increases in price levels, as well as a reduction in economic activity and the level of consumer spending.

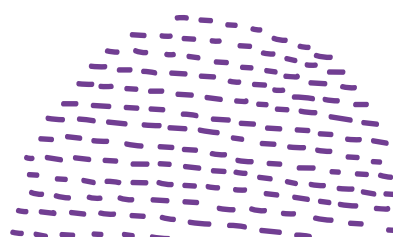
It is the opinion of the directors that these are non-adjusting events.

## 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 the 26 May 2022.



# Directors and Other Information

## DIRECTORS

Shane Cowley (Chairman)  
Joseph O'Reilly  
Michael Monaghan  
Marian Harte  
Michael O'Keeffe  
Maureen Mulligan  
Aine Myler  
Maureen Winston  
Ray Bowe  
Vincent Keenan  
Stephen Brewer (appointed 6 December 2021)  
Raffaella Bonomonte (appointed 3 February 2022)  
Gareth Jones (passed away 9 January 2021 – RIP)  
Daniel Browne (resigned 3 June 2021)  
Michael O'Shea (resigned 29 November 2021)

## SECRETARY

L & P Trustee Services Limited

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ray Bowe  
Maureen Mulligan  
Shane Cowley  
Aine Myler

## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Vincent Keenan  
Michael Monaghan  
Michael O'Keeffe

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Aine Myler  
Shane Cowley  
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>Chief Executive</i>	Brian Allen
<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

## COMPANY NUMBER

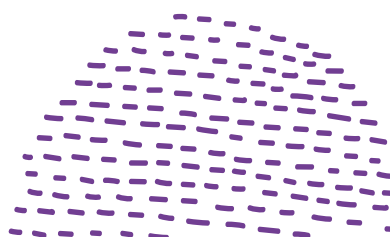
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## CHY No

CHY817

## Directors and Other Information (continued)

<b>CHARITY NUMBER</b>	20001278
<b>REGISTERED OFFICE</b>	Cantor Fitzgerald House 23 Stephen's Green Dublin 2 D02 AR55
<b>PRINCIPAL ADDRESS</b>	Grace Park Road, Drumcondra Dublin 9
<b>AUDITORS</b>	Crowe Ireland Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm 40 Mespil Road Dublin 4
<b>BANKERS</b>	AIB Bank Clonmel Co. Tipperary  Bank of Ireland O'Connell Street Dublin 1
<b>SOLICITORS</b>	Drumgoole Solicitors 102 Upper Drumcondra Road Drumcondra Dublin 9  Byrne Wallace 88 Harcourt Street Saint Kevin's Dublin 2









# ChildVision

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