

Annual Report

& Financial
Statements
2023



ChildVision

National Education Centre for Blind Children

Contents

Our Vision & Values	1
A Message from our Chair	2
A Message from our CEO	3
What We Do	4
2023 at a Glance	5
Strategic Objectives	6
Education Services	9
Pathways at ChildVision	17
Orientation & Mobility	21
Clinical Therapies	22
Residential Services	28
Reading Services	29
Family & Outreach	33
Research & Training	35
Risk Management	37
Child Protection	41
Financial Statements for 2023	42

Our Vision

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

Our Values



A Message from Our Chair

ChildVision remains committed to delivering the best possible services for children with sight loss and complex needs. The results are a testament to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and young people in our care.

We conducted a detailed review of our strategic objectives, laying the groundwork for a new Strategic Plan to be published in 2024. Meanwhile, we continued to advance our current strategic goals, delivering timely and responsive services for our beneficiaries.

2023 saw us concentrating on delivery of service. While we are looking at strategic direction and developing our Campus, our main priority is to never lose sight of the young people in our care. This remains intrinsic to everything we do.

We remain committed to the development of our Campus in Drumcondra. We continue to work with the HSE estates team on the main Campus Redevelopment. In addition, we progressed design and planning for the development of an Equine Centre, which we plan to deliver in late 2024 or early 2025.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Board, staff, and volunteers for their hard work and dedication in 2023.

To our donors – your support remains vital to us being able to make a positive impact on the lives of children and young people facing the significant challenges of sight loss, often accompanied with complex needs. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Together, let us continue our journey toward improving our young people's lives and help building a future where every child can belong, grow, and live their best and bravest life.

Thank you all for your steadfast support.



Shane Cowley

Chair

A Message from our CEO

As the newly appointed CEO of ChildVision, I am thrilled to be part of an organisation that makes such a profound difference in the lives of the young people we serve. Since joining, I've been deeply impressed by the quality of our services, the dedication of our team, and the compassionate and nurturing ethos that defines ChildVision.

We are embarking on an exciting journey, with ambitious plans to expand our services, and I am eager to lead this next chapter of growth. Strengthening our partnerships with the HSE and the Department of Education will be a key priority, enabling us to further enhance our impact. With their collaboration, and the generosity of our supporters, we can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

Reflecting on our achievements in 2023 and prior years, I am in awe of how much has been accomplished with the resources at hand. With strong support from our Board, I am eager to further develop and implement the bold strategies we've set for the future.

Above all, I am most excited to work alongside our talented, dedicated, and compassionate team at ChildVision, and to be continually inspired by the incredible young people in our care.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barry Sheridan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Barry Sheridan

CEO

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 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.

Our Services



Education Services



Clinical Services



Reading Services



National Network Services

<p>Early Years</p> <p>Pathways Programme</p> <p>Orientation & Mobility</p> <p>Technology</p> <p>Habilitation</p> <p>Education Supports</p> <p>Residential Term Living</p>	<p>Therapies</p> <p>Speech & Language Therapy</p> <p>Occupational Therapy</p> <p>Physiotherapy</p> <p>Psychology</p> <p>Equine Assisted Activities</p> <p>Nursing</p> <p>Low Vision Clinic</p> <p>Ophthalmology Clinic</p>	<p>Braille</p> <p>Large Print and Digital Format Education</p> <p>Transcription</p> <p>National Children's Library</p> <p>Professional Resource Library</p> <p>Assistive Technology</p> <p>3D Print Hub</p>	<p>Adapted Cognitive Assessments</p> <p>Early Years Arena, Multi Disciplinary, ADOS2 and Autism</p> <p>Functional Vision Assessment</p> <p>Family Events</p> <p>Professional Training Events</p> <p>New Technology Events</p>
---	--	---	---

ChildVision 2023 at a Glance

€8,861,303 Total annual running cost of ChildVision

€864k

Raised through fundraising

149

Staff in 2 locations, Dublin & Cork

€771k

Raised for capital programmes through fundraising

9,800

Nursing Interventions

59

External National Assessments delivered

6,730

Clinical Therapy Sessions delivered

4 weeks - 24 years

The age range of students attending ChildVision

8,123

Alternative book formats produced by Reading Services

300+

The number of library members who borrowed books

88

New Library registrations

2,700 Orientation & Mobility sessions delivered

Meeting Our Strategic Objectives

In 2023 we reviewed our Strategic Objectives with a plan to publically launch a new Strategic Plan in 2024. That work is ongoing. In the meantime we continued our work on delivering on our current Strategic Goals.

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

Highlights of 2023 include:

- Working on our next strategic plan with a plan to publically launch in 2024
- As part of the Implementation of a visionary master plan for our campus, which will provide world-class innovative opportunities for learning and therapies, we worked very closely with the HSE Estates team on revising costings for the main elements of the Campus Redesign
- Secured significant funding for our Equine Centre, and tendered for and appointed a design and professional services team, and are working on the tender process for the construction of the centre

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 2024 we will:

- Develop and publish the next strategic plan to deliver our essential services
- Move into implementation mode of our main Campus redevelopment
- Move to the implementation of the Equine Centre

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

Highlights of 2023 include:

- 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.
- Working with HSE towards the strengthening of our Service offering in the Cork area.

- 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 young people and their families and services who had been significantly affected by Covid-19.

In 2024 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

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

Highlights of 2023 include:

- 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 assistive technology resources to students and children at home
- Worked in partnership with the HSE to ensure the sustainability of our Cork service and are working to have a SLA put in place for that service
- Agreed to develop an enhanced service for the HSE under the Progressive Disabilities framework
- Further development of our 3D printing service to include a dedicated 3D Hub on campus to facilitate the demand for orders.

Impact:

- Continued ensuring that our services provision improved the outcomes for young people with a visual impairment and multiple disabilities.

In 2024, we will:

- Continue to try to ensure that no child is turned away for shortage of spaces
- Work with the HSE for an agreed SLA for our Cork service
- Look to implement our enhanced specialist services for Progressing Disabilities

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

Highlights of 2023 include:

- Significant fundraising as part of our Philanthropic Capital plan for the Equine Centre
- Extended the use of our CRM system
- Adapted our Fundraising Strategy focusing on sustaining programmes and providing funding for the capital plans
- We are working with HSE Estates and the SEAI to ensure sustainability of the campus redevelopment
- Completed a sustainability audit and commenced measuring of our Carbon Footprint

The impact is:

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

In 2024, we will:

- Continue working on our Philanthropic Capital plan
- Develop a sustainability strategy for the organisation

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

Highlights of 2023 include:

- Continued upskilling of staff in 2023 across all disciplines: autism awareness; Horseboy Method Level 3; clinical training to include infection control, seizure and dysphasia; new technology for assistive technologies
- A high percentage of staff also continued with third-level studies in areas of study chosen to complement their input to the organisation

The impact is:

- Ensuring that our staff continue to be able to develop the skills to make a significant positive difference to our service users

In 2024, 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
- Encourage collaborative projects with European networks on research projects
- Continue to encourage CPD as an integral part of our culture



Education Services

At ChildVision, education happens every day and in everything we do. Our Education Services work closely with our therapy and social care services to offer individual supports for each child and young adult taking part in ChildVision programmes.

The age spectrum covered reaches from birth to 25 years, from Early Intervention to transitioning out of the Pathways programme. We provide full and direct services for the Early Years age group and young adults; as well as therapy services to our neighbouring schools.

Early referral is crucial for starting with early intervention services and the journey of a child with VI might start with vision work in the context of an Early Years setting in our Dublin or Cork Early Years Services.

The link with ChildVision might be maintained throughout the school time, whether on campus in Dublin or in mainstream schools around the country, as Reading Services provide transcriptions and the National Network Service further input. For those looking for further tailored support in our Pathways programme, the option of residential services is also available. Tailored educational inputs therefore occur across the young age spectrum.



Early Years Service (EYS) Dublin

Within ChildVision's Early Years Service we implement both the Sioltar and Aistear National framework as part of our curriculum. In addition we also have a specialised curriculum (Carolina Curriculum) aimed at the education of children with a range of with special needs and the Learning Tracks Framework.

It is widely considered that up to 80% of a child's early learning comes through vision, and because infants and toddlers learn by watching and imitating others during daily activities, blindness or low vision can impact their development in a vast number of ways. To have their best start in life, young children who are blind or have low vision and their families benefit from specialised intervention.

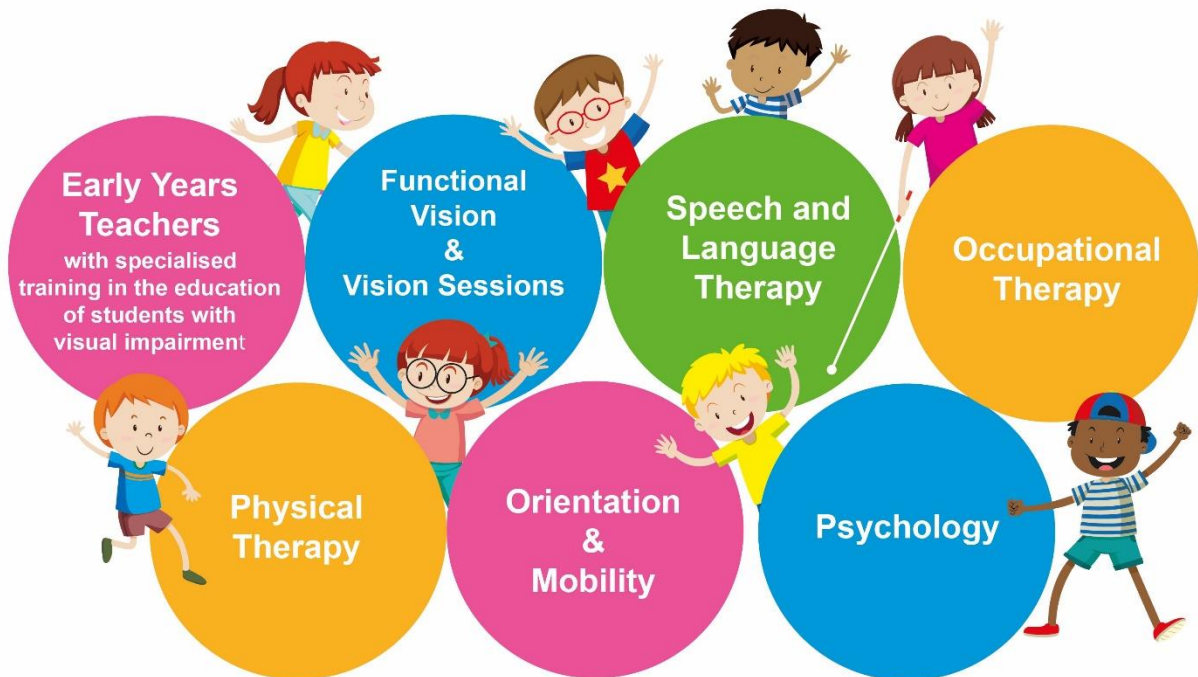
Individualised programmes

Our Early Learning Service caters for children aged from birth to 6 years old. Our service is available to any child nationwide and we provide different sessions to try to ensure that all families who contact us have the opportunity to avail of our service.

Family is a critical part of each child's team and a key teacher is assigned to each child before they start in the Preschool, to facilitate the development of a good support network for the parents and to ensure good communication between school and home. Each key teacher works to advocate for the child within the therapy team, to prioritize individualised learning objectives, and to help parents with carrying on these activities learning at home.

We use a team-based approach to develop individual educational plans for children that incorporate compensatory skill development, multi-sensory instruction, and the efficient use of residual vision.

Our Early Years team consists of specialised & related services:



Given the facilities within ChildVision, we are able to expand each child's learning beyond the classroom to our outdoor play areas, sensory garden, pet farm and equine, where students use hands-on learning and new sensory experiences to engage in the world around them.

Alongside the regular curriculum of a ChildVision Early Years Service, we offer a very specialised curriculum known as an Expanded Core Curriculum. This is specific instruction young children will need because of their vision loss.

There are nine specific areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum, including:

- 1 Compensatory Skills**
These critical skills include concept development and organisational skills, as well as communication skills, such as speaking and listening, sign language, tactile symbols, braille or print reading and writing, and accessing recorded materials.
- 2 Orientation and Mobility**
Skills to help a child to know where they are in space and to move safely, independently, and efficiently in the environment.
- 3 Social Interaction**
Skills needed to participate actively and appropriately in social situations.
- 4 Independent Living**
Skills of daily living needed to care for oneself independently, including personal hygiene, food preparation, cleaning, clothing care, and money management.
- 5 Recreation and Leisure**
Skills to promote the enjoyment of leisure activities, including learning new leisure activities and making choices about how to spend leisure time.
- 6 Sensory Efficiency**
Skills that help students to use all of their senses, including functional vision, hearing, touch, taste and smell.
- 7 Assistive Technology**
Skills to use computers and other electronic equipment to function independently and effectively at school, home or work.
- 8 Career Education**
Skills that encourage students to explore career options and learn about the world of work.
- 9 Self-Determination**
Skills that enable students to become effective advocates for themselves based on their own needs and goals.

Our Service supports parents by having a weekly parent/child group and afternoon individual sessions. During those sessions parents have access to the expertise of one of the Early Years Teachers, who will provide an hour long intensive play session focusing on use of residual vision and incorporating vision and tactile awareness into everyday play.

We aim to assist the parents become more confident in helping their child in all areas of development and to increase each child's sense of self confidence and age-appropriate independence skills

This overall approach easily explains that, as in previous years, 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.

Statistics for 2023

<p>28 Children started in the academic year of 2023 with a high level of complex conditions and disabilities across all rooms, with 12 children availing of the parents/afternoon groups.</p> <p>The Early Years operated on a staff of 6 full time with one part-time staff (20 hrs).</p>	<p>Daily pre-school and early intervention sessions took place every morning from 10am – 1pm.</p> <p>Individual sessions with children were offered on two afternoons, and a parent/child group every Friday morning.</p> <p>Respite sessions were offered on Thursday afternoons.</p>	<p>Workshops for parents were offered in line with the Family Resource Calendar of Events and in co-operation with therapies.</p> <p>This year saw the return of our Christmas party which was attended by the majority of families from the EYS and it was lovely to be able to host an on-campus event for parents.</p>
--	--	---

Attendance in EYS as of September 2023

Children by Age	Attend 2 days p.w.	Attend 3 days p.w.	Attend 5 days p.w.	Parent/Group Session 1 hour per week
0 – 1 year				3
1 – 2 years				2
2 – 3 years	12			2
3 – 4 years	3	3		4
4 – 5 years	6	2	1	1

Assessments and Vision Work

The EYS coordinator provides input in most assessments carried out on campus, and has particular expertise in CVI and in working with the Eye Gaze equipment. The EYS co-ordinator is part of a nationwide CVI working group and also links in with Temple Street Childrens' Hospital. This high level of expertise benefits all of our children.

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 4 EYS assessments, 6-8 FVA and 1 MDT assessment required an EYS staff to be present. This work forms a core part of, and is the basis for, the specialist vision work provided by the EYS.

Within ChildVision the children present with a wide variety of visual impairments and additional disabilities. Visual Impairments included:

CVI		Bilateral Hemianopia
Albinism		ONH
Retinal Detachment		Glaucoma
Congenital Cataract		Cone Rod Dystrophy
Coloboma Eye Disorder		Leber's Syndrome
Microphthalmia		Buphthalmos
Delayed Visual Maturation		Nystagmus

90% of children in Childvision's Early Years Service have a wide range of complex and multiple disabilities and also very rare conditions including;

Hydrocephalus	Down Syndrome	Dyspraxia
Osteopetrosis	BRPF1 Related Disorder	Stickler's Syndrome
Bardet-Biedl Syndrome	Hormone deficiency	Septo-Optic Dysplasia
Global Developmental Delay	Polymicrogyria	Schizencephaly
Cerebral Palsy	Hypertonia Dystonia	Epilepsy
Microencephaly	Acquired brain injury	Cardiac Conditions
MICPCH	Translocation T91.5	Renal Conditions
ASD	Norrie Disease	Charge Syndrome

Compliance & Training

Due to the multi-faceted work of the EYS, colleagues are linking in and comply with several bodies, i.e. AIM/ECCE, Tusla, DES and others. This requires work in attending consultation processes, national conferences within the Early Years and complying with all the relevant administrative work. Consequently, our staff stay up-to-date and attend relevant training on a continuous basis. In 2022/23 staff completed onsite training as required. Staff also took advantage of online training for Early Years. Staff received comprehensive training in how to use ChildVision's new CRM, which will help with tracking the children's progress with us.

Early Years Service Cork

ChildVision's Cork Service offers a fully integrated, assessments and one-to-one VI support sessions, orientation & mobility support, and low vision intervention. In addition to that, the Preschool offers Easter and Summer camps, which form part of the service for families.

ChildVision Cork works from the core curriculum using Aistear and Síolta as its basis, which we then modify and expand on to meet the needs of the children who attend. Our activities include pre-braille activities and sensory play incorporated into each day. We are fortunate to have an O & M instructor on-site allowing us to also incorporate mobility training into the daily schedule. The programme goes at the pace of each individual child. We look at the different development levels of each child and set goals according to their ability. We have specialised equipment that is used with the children who are visually impaired. This equipment has been secured through AIM level 5, the Visiting Teacher service for the Visually Impaired, and ChildVision fundraising and is of huge benefit to all children in the service.



What makes us different is that we are an inclusive preschool, the only one of its kind in the Cork area. We have children without additional needs attending alongside their peers who are visually impaired and who have complex medical needs. This leads to an environment of children who are kind, considerate, and understanding of their friends who learn at a different pace to them.

24 children attended the pre-school during the 2022 - 23 academic year, out of which 13 attended morning sessions across the week, and 11 the afternoon sessions. Due to its fully integrated nature, our pre-school in Cork has a very high level of AIM level 7 support. This was availed of by 8 children in the morning and 7 children in the afternoon sessions. In terms of staffing, the AIM support we receive increased staff to 4 additional members shared in both mornings and afternoon sessions.

Attendance at EYS Cork 2023

TIME	Attending 1 day p.w.	Attending 2 days p.w.	Attending 3 days p.w.	Attending 4 days p.w.	Attending 5 days p.w.
Morning	0	2	1	2	8
Afternoon	2	1	0	1	7

TIME	AIM support	No additional needs	Additional needs & fee paying	Total
Morning	8	5		13
Afternoon	7	2	2	11

The staff in Cork comprises

1 x Preschool Teacher Permanent	4 x Additional Staff under level 7 AIM (30 hours x 2 posts)	1 x O&M Instructor	The Early Years Service Manager
------------------------------------	---	--------------------	------------------------------------

Special Events and New Developments

Our staff team in Cork continued to be very active in offering events to families and in expanding co-operation and services.



Compliance

ChildVision Cork liaise and comply with several Government regulatory bodies including; ECCE, AIM, Tusla and DES.

Training

Staff training has always been valued and encouraged in ChildVision Cork. Throughout 2023, the staff team engaged in numerous CPD training as well as attending webinars on relevant topics. Training included:

- Leadership and Management
- Functional Vision Assessments with ChildVision Dublin
- First Aid Responder training
- Fire warden safety training
- Training and webinars offered directly through Cork County Childcare Committee
- SNA Tracheostomy Training

Staff continue in their own further education training in the following areas;

- MA in Play Therapy
- MA in Inclusive and Special Education

Future Challenges

As we look towards our enrolment for September 2024, we are again faced with the challenge of having a high number of applicants with significantly high needs. We foresee that if we had funding for additional staff, to include our own nursing staff, we would be able to provide a service to a much higher number of children. Furthermore, we also continue to face the challenge of having limited space for further development where we currently are.

Daithí's Story



We first met Daithí at the start of the first lockdown in 2020. His mum Louise made contact with us as she had some concerns about his vision. As we were not able to meet in person, Louise sent us some videos of Daithí so that we could see how he was doing. We then made some tailored videos, which we sent back to Louise, showing her different activities she could do with him at home, which would focus on his vision. These videos went back and forwards for a couple of weeks until we were finally able to meet in person.

Daithí has a diagnosis of Hereditary Retinal Syndrome, Rods & Cones Dystrophy and Nystagmus. Daithí had been attending a private crèche, who were unfortunately unable to provide a place for him when he needed it. Fortunately, ChildVision Cork were able to offer Daithí a place in our inclusive service in September 2022.

Daithí is a very sociable little boy who enjoys the interactions with both his friends and his teachers. He loves playing with cars and buses and he especially loves to talk about his own experiences of travelling on buses and compare them to stories with his teachers. He loves puzzles and listening to stories using props from our Story Sacks and he loves to engage in imaginative play with his friends.

From his Orientation & Mobility classes Daithí has learned the skills to manage his way about the classroom remarkably well. He relies on verbal prompting from his teachers and often his pals will help him and give him directions on where he needs to go which is just gorgeous to see. Daithí is a confident little boy who is very able to ask for help or for directions if he needs it, or he can ask questions if he feels unsure about his surroundings.

Daithí settled in really well to preschool and he quickly made friends with his classmates. He is full of chat and always has lots of news to share with everyone. He spent a year with us in ChildVision Cork before moving on to his local Naoinra to prepare him for going to Gaelscoil in September 2024.

Daithí thrived during his year with us. He had access to a shared AIM level 7 support in the classroom and he had weekly visits from his Visiting Teacher, as well as having weekly O&M sessions in the classroom.

Daithí benefited from attending an inclusive preschool where he was able to learn alongside his peers, as well as being able to teach them about how he doesn't see as well as they do and how he uses his "sticky" to help to guide him. This was a fantastic experience for Daithí and his family.



Pathways at ChildVision

In 2023, ChildVision’s Lifelong Learning programme rebranded to become Pathways. The rationale for this was because students and staff felt it was a more appropriate name for the five-year programme.



In June we said farewell to eight students. We worked closely with each student, alongside social care staff, ChildVision’s Transition Manager and Psychologist to provide a positive transition from ChildVision to the next chapters of their lives. We had a huge celebration at the end of June to recognise all of their achievements.

Students went on to services in Vision Ireland, National Learning Network, Irish Wheelchair Association, The Talbot Group and Camphill Communities. We welcomed three new students to Pathways this year

and they are settling in well, two transferred from St. Joseph’s Primary School for Children with Visual Impairment and one person from the Central Remedial Clinic (CRC)

Staff

- Four staff left in 2023 and we hired three new team members to accommodate the increasing support needs of students.
- Two staff completed their Masters, one in Special Education and one in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. One staff member was funded to undertake a RUA course – that brings a total of four qualified RSE (Relationship and Sex Education) trainers in Pathways.
- Seven Pathways staff completed in-house Activities of Daily Living (ADL) training. Feedback from staff about this training was really positive, they felt it was very relevant to all aspects of their day-to-day practice, particularly in relation to vision supports.

Session Delivery

In December we conducted an analysis of the Pathways daily schedules. We found that we provide over 200 different activities per week.

Some of these are 1:1 sessions and some are group sessions. Each session is only counted as one activity irrespective of how many people attend.

Pathways Staff		External Staff	
RSE	10	O&M	18
Enterprises	57	Physio Group	2
Meditation	2	Music	6
Well-being Skills	6	Music Therapy	4
Employment Skills	11	Musical Wellbeing	6
Work Placement Skills	4	Typing	10
Sports / Physio	22	Resource	10
Baking	8	Advocacy	2
Library	3	Choir	1
ASDAN / QQI	13		
Arts and Crafts	8		
Music	3		
Outing / Walk	8		
POD	2		
Check-in / Personal Planning	11		
Braille	5		
		Total Activities 232	

Enterprises

At the start of the year CanDo applied for the Community Services Programme grant. This is a secure long term grant that provides much needed funding for a manager and to create paid positions for people with disabilities. The application took a considerable amount of time and effort, from the initial 'Concept Note' phase, to progressing to the full application. A working group was set up that included Finance, Pathways, Fundraising and Administration colleagues to complete the application.

At the end of the year we were notified that we had been successful. ChildVision was requested by the Department of Community and Rural Affairs to host the official launch of the grant.

On the 13th of December 2023 all of the successful applicants came to ChildVision where Minister for Community Development, Integration and Charities, Joe O'Brien (pictured above right), announced the fourteen winners and plans for the fund going forward.



For CanDo this grant amounts to €152k over the course of two years, it is a restricted fund to hire a Social Enterprise Manager and two Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions for people with vision impairment. These positions will be broken down into five or six part-time jobs so that we support as many people as possible to enter the labour market. There are specific milestones attached to the grant that include undertaking a training needs analysis, providing accredited training, as well as enterprise-specific milestones, i.e. to increase our retailer network, install a refilling station, and engage in business supports provided by Pobal.

Development



We added two new retailers to our network, EPIC Museum, and The Wooden Whisk, in Dublin city centre. We continued to work with We Make Good and developed a limited edition candle for them at Christmas. There are plans to further expand their range with new scents and products in 2024.

We began to explore the idea of pottery as a complimentary enterprise. There is a kiln on campus that has not been used in many years so we wanted to bring it back into action.

Using some grant money, we purchased some new equipment and materials and some of the staff completed some basic training. We are hoping to create decorations and soap dishes with further products to be developed once we become proficient.



In December we availed of a stall in the Botanic Garden's Christmas market. Unfortunately bad weather meant that the market was shortened from two days to one, so sales were not as high as predicted. However, we got wonderful opportunities to interact with customers and spread the word about CanDo and the work of ChildVision.



New Products

We developed two new textile products. We used some donated mohair yarn and created brightly coloured snoods and scarves on the knitting machine. These were a huge success at Christmas.

We also developed a new body butter scented with grapefruit and ginger (pictured below). We spent some grant money on professional photos for the CanDo Shopify which we were really happy with.

Overall 2023 was a good year for Pathways. There were a lot of changes and challenges but the department continued to grow and develop. There are lots of exciting things ahead for us in 2024 with new staff for CanDo with thanks to the CSP fund, an Erasmus project that will allow students and staff to visit others in Europe, and new products and activities in development. It will certainly be a busy year!



Noel's Story, in his own words



Hello, my name is Noel McCarthy and I'm from Cork. I am a residential student in 124 Grace Park Road, and I also go to Pathways Day Service in ChildVision, but before that I went to Rosmini Community School.

I have learned a lot this year and have achieved a lot of goals. In Pathways I have a very busy programme. I do a typing class every Tuesday and Thursday. I enjoy it and at the end of the year I did an exam and achieved a certificate. I learn about workplace skills with my tutor Niamh. I had to research skills in the workplace. I chose a hotel receptionist and I had to research what skills are important for that job. I also started a new module called Asdan which looks at the challenges involved in work. As part of this I have to research work experience opportunities in my local area in Mallow and in Drumcondra. In the weaving enterprise I completed the task of making a teddy bear. I have a big interest in teddy bears and have a large collection of them. This is a skill that I really wanted to try out myself and I got help with my tutor in doing this. I learned the skill of pushing the carriage back and forth on the weaving machine. I learned different techniques in pushing the weights up the

machine for better control. I really enjoyed this as part of my training and I am happy it will continue.

In 124 I have learned a lot of independence skills. I have learned how to make different meals for myself using the air fryer. I let staff know what I want to cook. They purchase the ingredients for me and I get help from the staff in making it. I am now confident in using the air fryer and I will look at making new meals for the future.

As part of my mobility I completed the route from Pathways to 124 house, on my own with someone shadowing me. For this, I had to identify landmarks such as the tactile paving and getting from the traffic lights to 124. I use lamp posts as a guide. I am now working on the route to Sion Hill and to 150 Grace Park Road so I can go and visit my friends independently. I am also starting a new taxi programme in September to further my independence travelling to Heuston Station. This will involve booking the taxi on my own but I might need a bit of help at the start.

I attend piano classes in Tempo Music School in Drumcondra with my teacher Sarah. I am learning the basics of piano and different techniques used for different hand fingerings on the piano. I started this in 2023 and I am loving it. I will progress further by exploring new techniques in piano playing. There is a piano in ChildVision that I play every day.

I also had a human rights training talk on zoom in 124 and I also completed a human rights training course. This training talked about assistive decision making along with different topics related to human rights. I got a certificate as part of this.

As part of my programme in Pathways and in 124 I have link session with my link workers. This is done once a month and sometimes we go for ice cream or tea, and we generally talk about how I'm getting on with my different goals and if there are any issues I want to talk about. These sessions are linked to my Personal Goal Plan. I have my plan on email so I can access it anytime. One of the goals on my plan that I am proud of is that I can now administer my own medication. Before that I needed help from staff in the house.

I am happy about all the goals I have achieved throughout the year and I hope I can expand on them during my time in Pathways and in the house in 2024.

Orientation and Mobility (O&M)

Orientation and mobility sessions are an essential part in each child's learning journey with ChildVision and are provided in Dublin and nationwide. Three O&M specialists work with all the children in the Early Years Service (EYS) Dublin, St. Joseph's Primary School for Children with Visual Impairment, Rosmini Community School, and other secondary schools within the area, as well as with the young adults in the Pathways programme, reaching ca. 125 children and young adults in total. One further colleague provides O&M sessions in Cork and another via outreach nationwide. The service we continue to offer provides a unique and vital support to our students across all age groups. This has included:

Sighted guide and pre cane skills	Introduction to cane skills
Sensory and concept development including interpreting visual information, encouraging sound discrimination, positional or directional concepts	Liaising with professionals from other organisations and schools in order to best support our students who are transitioning
Room familiarisation in both primary, post primary, and Pathways classrooms	Wheelchair mobility including accessing doors independently
Indoor and outdoor route learning	Experiential shopping
Accessing public transport including, buses, Luas, train, and taxi service	



Photo: Pexels

2023 has been a busy year. The International Mobility Conference was held in Poland in May. One of our O&M specialists delivered a virtual presentation on the **The benefits of incorporating music into O&M instruction for and early primary school aged children** while other colleagues delivered workshops and presentations in person.

ChildVision was fortunate to welcome Dr. Laura Bozeman on two occasions in 2023 to assist with the ACVREP (The Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professional) accreditation process. This is the primary certifying organisation in the United States for professionals who work with people who are visually impaired. Three of our O&M specialists are currently preparing for the exam required to complete this accreditation process, having successfully completed their practical evaluation.

In addition to the conference and accreditation process the O&M team have provided multiple training sessions in sighted guiding to staff members and peers who are currently supporting our students in external placements

and training courses. We continue to offer a significantly high level of outreach work to our students. This has proven to be a huge success in terms of student participation and achieving goals.

We have been fortunate enough to trial new technology over the year including Empatheyeyes, which is one of the most advanced visual impairment simulators ever created. It gave us a deeper understanding of some of the difficulties our students may face. It was wonderful to see the power of technology and how it is used to transform our teaching and learning.

In total, 2,304 direct O&M sessions with students were carried out in 2023.

Clinical Services at ChildVision, 2023 in review

Nursing

Epilepsy has always been an additional medical condition of a high cohort of the children/young people who attend ChildVision. According to the Epilepsy Society, one in five people with a learning disability have epilepsy. It is also a feature of many syndrome's associated with visual loss.

In order for the children/young people to avail of the services of ChildVision, all staff need to have an understanding of epilepsy, how it is managed in an emergency situation, when further medical treatment is required and, particularly, when medical treatment is not required. Epilepsy requires an immediate response therefore it cannot be the sole responsibility of the nursing team. Children and young people need to be able to attend school trips/community outings and mobility lessons. In order to improve the care provided to these individuals the Nursing team undertook the challenge to train ChildVision staff in epilepsy management to a level of accreditation.

Following consultation with Epilepsy Ireland, in December 2022, ChildVision hosted a train the trainer programme for nurses to train allied healthcare professionals in epilepsy management. The course was instructed by trainers from Warriors Epilepsy Scotland, and there were 12 nurses working across Ireland participating. ChildVision now have two trainers. This is one of the first programmes to take place in Ireland.

Throughout 2023, the Nursing team have trained over 80 staff in the emergency care and management of a child with epilepsy.

The evaluation of the training has been excellent, with participants having confidence to manage emergency situations in a calm and effective manner, thereby opening opportunities to the children/young people of ChildVision.

It is hoped in 2024 to continue to provide staff training and extend training to families.



In 2023, a priority for the Nursing team was the re-establishment of the Ophthalmology Clinic. This was successful due to the financial support from ChildVision through the temporary employment of a consultant ophthalmologist.

The Eye Clinic allowed the clinical assessment of over 90 children/young people within the first six months of 2023. This included a number of children receiving Cerebral Visual Impairment (CVI) diagnosis for the first time, and the assessment of migrant children, who although visually impaired, were unable to access public ophthalmology services. Whilst a successful project, it is the aim of the Nursing team in 2024 to connect with Children's Health Ireland (CHI) to expand the service.

The Clinical Nurse Manager attended a national working group, "Paediatric Improvement Project, Integrated Eye Care Services" and connected with the National Optometry Centre in Grangeegorman. The benefits of both are to bring primary and acute care teams together to offer better ophthalmology services to children. It also allows for the future optometrists of Ireland to appreciate the needs of the visual impaired community.

The overall goal for the Nursing team is to work with CHI to provide clinical ophthalmology to support the vision team in ChildVision, and to advocate for, through collaboration and learning, more in-depth optometry assessments for our children/young people, so that they can optimise clinical visual acuity daily.

Occupational Therapy

Visual impairment has a significant impact on many aspects of a child's development and ability to become independent. ChildVision's occupational therapists are specialists who take children's visual impairment into account in helping them to reach their potential. We look at how children progress developmentally and the skills they need to facilitate their independence, and we help them to progress using fun activities that are relevant to each individual child.

The Occupational Therapy department in ChildVision welcomed two new Occupational Therapists (OT's) onto the team. With the new additions to the team, ChildVision has 2.2 occupational therapists on-site, two Staff Grade OT's working full time, and one Staff Grade part time (working one day per week). We carry out sessions in the occupational therapy gym and work with children and young adults and their teachers and carers in the primary school and pre-school classrooms and in the residential houses.

Physiotherapy

The Physiotherapy department has been working at ways to provide physiotherapy services to those across campus. 2023 saw the continuation of Rebound therapy for primary school students. Rebound Therapy has been provided via individual 1:1 sessions which incorporated both physiotherapy and Speech and Language therapy intervention to promote fluid, controlled movement patterns and also to develop student's language development and communication skills. It is a highly enjoyable activity and is used to great effect as a cross-curricular teaching tool

The Physiotherapy team have been working collaboratively with tutors (FR/Pathways) to seek and avail of funding for much needed, updated fitness equipment via Vision Sports Ireland. This is to maximise the potential of our strength and fitness area, which was created for our Pathways students.

The department has also become part of the Patient and Manual Handling team, responsible for ensuring safe and effective training and information to all staff members across campus. This will help to ensure that everyone maintains their personal safety when using manual/patient handling duties.

The Physiotherapy department hopes to resume third level physiotherapy student placements this year as well as contributing to various work experience and transition year student placements

Speech & Language

The Senior Speech & Language Therapist (SLT) worked collaboratively with St. Joseph's National School's music therapist to devise a specialised and individualised intervention for a child with a significant communication difficulty. Incorporating speech and language targets in to lyrics and melodies devised by the music therapist had a positive impact on the child's progress, ability to communicate more clearly, and their participation and wellbeing.

The SLT department initiated a 'Lámh' newsletter within the organisation to help educate and teach staff Lámh signs.

The department continues to support undergraduate SLT students by offering them placements here. Two second years attended for a 10 day placement in early 2024 and two third years will attend for six weeks in May and June. Offering placements benefits students as they have the unique opportunity of learning about visual impairments (in addition to other disabilities) and how this can impact communication development. It also benefits clinicians, as students can offer additional therapy sessions, help develop the service through projects, and often offer 'tech savvy' knowledge and skills! It also helps raise awareness in the community about the important work ChildVision does.



Photo: Freepik

Psychology

The Psychology Service continues to develop since its creation in October 2022 with services provided to St. Joseph's Primary School for Children with Visual Impairment, Pathways, residential students, and the National Service for Cognitive Assessments and Autism Assessments.

The service is developing rapidly in the area of specialist assessment for visual impairment, using adaptations on measures. This process has been accelerated with the creation of the Low Vision Team, and Psychology and Low Vision are working together to fully understand each child's functional vision, in order to ensure that adaptations are tailored to the individual, to facilitate them performing to the best of their ability. This helps us to fully capture each child's strengths and to understand what support they might need in school and at home. We have also been involved in discussions with colleagues internationally regarding research into adaptations, with some exciting prospects for next year.

The Psychology Service has been engaged with Universities in Ireland such as Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin, who provide Doctoral level training in clinical, counselling and educational psychology. We have had three trainee psychologists on placements over the past year.

We have also sought opportunities to teach trainee psychologists about visual impairment (VI) through these courses, with input provided to Trinity College's Doctorate in clinical psychology so far. This is a great opportunity to highlight the VI community in terms of specialist assessment needs and intervention.

Psychology has also joined a Cerebral Visual Impairment (CVI) Ireland Specialist Group, which involves various professionals working across Ireland who have an interest and expertise in CVI. The CVI group held a conference this March for professionals on the theoretical and practical aspects of CVI. The conference was hosted by ChildVision and was a great success, with significant input from Psychology and Low Vision.

The Psychology Service was delighted this year to support the introduction of a counselling service for parents of children who attend St. Joseph's Primary School for the Visually Impaired. This is an important support and an acknowledgement that parents often need a space to process their experiences of having a child with VI, many of whom have often been through medical difficulties or present with multiple disabilities.



Equine



In 2023 the Equine Unit saw on average 80 students a week for Equine Assisted Activities.

The unit delivered two Therapeutic Riding Coach Courses. The first course was held in Castle Leslie, Co. Monaghan, for the Equine Team at the hotel, and included Horseboy Method 1 & 2, which was delivered alongside Rupert Isaacson. The second course was held on the ChildVision campus in August, with 12 participants from across Ireland. Two of the twelve participants have since opened new services for children with additional needs and the other ten have now all incorporated EAA into their service provision.

During the year the horses had three holidays; a long weekend at Easter, two weeks in the summer and two weeks at Christmas. A huge congratulations and thanks to two beautiful and much loved horses who retired; Echo and Jack. They are now living in Ashbourne.

In August 2023 we welcomed a new horse to the Equine family, Oscar. Oscar has settled in very well and is already a firm favourite with the children.

We welcomed three corporate companies in throughout the year to experience horse-riding with a visual impairment. These corporate days are so valuable in sharing the experience of living with a visual impairment for the public and it always brings a sense of pride to hear our students talk about their love of ChildVision and for all things equine.

The impact of EAA can be felt and seen for up to 48 hours after the session. To maximise on this, bringing parents and schools on board is crucial. In 2023, we held Zoom workshops with schools and parents information evenings and family fun days.

Two senior Equine Instructors attended a conference organised by One Equine Trust in CAFRE College, Enniskillen, on Equine Assisted Activities throughout the Island of Ireland.

Our team presented three workshops with Rupert Isaacson on the Horseboy Method and how it works for children with ASD. We were also on a panel of speakers at the conference for a question and answer session.

In November we welcomed a new staff member, Aoife McGowan, a previous attendee of the Therapeutic Riding Coach Course.

Continuous Professional Development for the Clinical Therapies Team

As the OT team also works with Children with MDVI (Multiple Disabled with a Visual Impairment), training was also completed with Seating Matters entitled 'Educational Training Roadshow' as well as with Sensory Integration Education entitled 'Transform Your Practice with Sensory Integration: A Course for Therapists'.

In October, two members of the Equine unit attended a course in Equine Facilitated Learning through the Athena programme in Northern Ireland to become certified Equine Assisted Learning Facilitators.

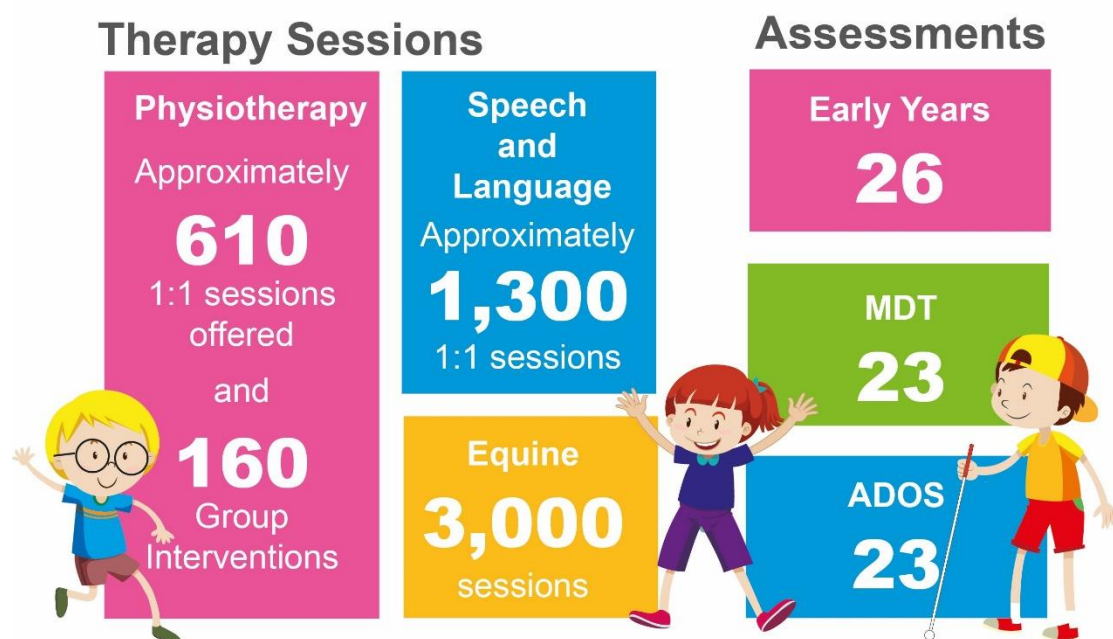
The OT department completed vision specific training including Deafblind/ Dual sensory loss CPD, 'Assessments that Occupational Therapists can use with children who have CVI' facilitated by the low vision Centre of learning, and in service training consisting of 'Orientation and Mobility' which demonstrated sighted guide techniques and 'Understanding how Blindisms and Autism Spectrum Disorder can present with similar characteristics' both facilitated by staff members from the ChildVision team

The OT department also attended seven full training days exploring approaches and strategies for Activities of Daily Living (ADL). This focused on Self-care and daily tasks, kitchen skills and home management using a vision focused lens. The OT's are keen to get involved in the facilitation of this training in the future.

The Senior SLT attended Trinity College's Clinical Educator Workshop which allowed her to understand students' competencies and knowledge at different stages of their training as well as how best to support students to have a positive experience through education, constructive feedback and inclusivity.

A UK based Multi-Sensory Impairment and Visual Impairment (MSI and VI) Clinical Excellence Network (CEN) was attended for the first time by SLT. This was an opportunity to share and learn with our colleagues across the water, using case studies and discussions.

2023 at a Glance



Jaxon's Story



Jaxon first attended ChildVision's Early Years Service when he was just two years old. Jaxon has a diagnosis of Septo Optic Dysplasia which has an associated visual diagnosis of Optic Nerve Hypoplasia (underdeveloped optic nerves) leading to visual impairment. Supporting Jaxon's functional vision skills was the key in helping Jaxon to reach early developmental milestones. The team in Early Years did this by closely examining what and how Jaxon responded to visual stimuli; what colours he was drawn to, what distance he required objects to be placed and from what visual field etc. Building up this visual profile and ensuring that his visual needs were met within the classroom environment, opened up the doors of education to Jaxon.

Jaxon has associated endocrine issues connected to his diagnosis. Having the nursing team on hand to offer ongoing support when growth hormone injections were introduced provided total reassurance to his family that Jaxon was in safe hands and with an experienced team who had been down this road before with other families.

Sleep and toileting can be challenging at the best of times for families. When a toddler has a visual impairment, and linked with endocrinology, these hurdles can become harder to manage. The experienced nursing team at ChildVision were able to support Jaxon and his family to make small progresses - one day at a time.

Transitions were initially very difficult for Jaxon. Speech and Language Therapy devised objects of reference to help Jaxon to understand what was happening currently and what would happen next. Jaxon is a big "Hey Dougie" fan and to help Jaxon feel secure and safe, the team used the theme tune from "Hey Dougie" when moving from one place to the next. In his Speech and Language Therapy sessions, Jaxon's interests were used to help him to communicate. Pictures of his favourite items were created, for example, Dougie, his bottle, oat bars! Jaxon learned very quickly what these pictures represented, and he went on to learn how to use these pictures to ask for things he wanted in the classroom.

Mobility was initially a big challenge for Jaxon. He first came to physiotherapy in his buggy, however as he became more comfortable with the physiotherapist and as his communications skills improved, as he could anticipate his routine, he began to enjoy his time in the physiotherapy gym and his mobility improved. Jaxon is now independently mobile and he is going from strength to strength. A substantial barrier to Jaxon's independence involved his depth perception and visual processing which affected his confidence and mobility. Jaxon has developed strategies to improve these skills now to the point where he is ascending and descending stairs, and he can independently access environments that were once out of his reach. Jaxon likes to show off his climbing skills regularly and he is now exploring more and more.

When Jaxon was aged four he was referred to the ChildVision specialist autism assessment team for an assessment of autism in the context of his visual impairment. Children with visual impairment can engage in behaviours called blindisms, that are similar to behaviours seen in children with autism, for example poor eye contact and hand flapping. It was important that Jaxon was assessed for autism in ChildVision in order to understand whether he was presenting with blindisms or autism. The assessment team were able to use their knowledge of visual impairments to make adaptations to the standardised tests for autism, to give Jaxon the best opportunity to engage in testing. The team were able to understand that Jaxon was presenting with autism rather than blindisms and he received a diagnosis. The diagnosis helped the team to guide Jaxon's parents as to what kind of school placement would suit him best, and to think about what supports he needs in order to reach his full potential and thrive.

Jaxon now attends St Joseph's Primary School for Children with Visual Impairment and he continues to be supported by the specialist vision therapy team.



Residential Services

This year, as every other, the one single sound that permeates ChildVision's residential houses is that of laughter, with our young people taking every opportunity to celebrate and enjoy living together and learning together. Our five residential houses, all in the local Drumcondra area, are happy, welcoming, comfortable places to live. Staffed by teams of fully qualified social care workers – many of whom have additional qualifications specific to working with young people with vision impairment - each of our house teams place at the heart of their work a deep commitment to the individual young person and to tailoring our programmes and supports to meet each young person's unique needs, aspirations, and ambitions.

Supporting our young people in this way means committing to a person centred approach that requires sensitivity, flexibility, and creativity. This means making sure that we are not just teaching skills that are essential to building self-confidence and empowering meaningful independence but that we are also doing so in ways that align with each young person's individual rhythms, capacities and interests.

When the young person is at the centre of our work, everything changes. So, for example, one of our house communities spent an entire weekend devoted to fulfilling their young people's 'bucket list' dreams, packing into an exhausting 72 hours a pampering spa-day, a trip back in time to Co. Clare's Bunratty Castle, an AC DC tribute concert in the Olympia Theatre and an afternoon at the Leopardstown Races, all bracketed by wonderful meals out, pub visits and evenings spent dancing.

Another house team responded to one young person's wish to experience a taste of real independence by designating a whole six days as 'Independence Week,' ensuring as much as possible of that time was given over to the young person running everything for themselves, from budgeting, shopping and preparing meals to booking taxis for trips out to meet friends. The young person describes the whole experience as 'a real confidence boost' and 'just what I needed.'

Especially perhaps after almost two years of Covid lockdown, independence is a particularly strong theme across all the houses in 2023, with so many of our residential young people just wanting to explore more and enjoy independence more in whatever form. An example of this is being supported to insistently and unrelentingly lobby the council to install a set of audible local traffic lights so the young person could travel independently to visit a family member. For other young people in our care, it means working hard to improve their orientation and mobility skills, mastering the taxi app on a smartphone, helping organise an overnight pampering trip to a hotel, performing on local radio, discovering the best way to consistently cook lasagne, signing up for Zumba classes, travelling for the first time unaccompanied on the Luas, spending time to better understand the personal implications of human rights, taking up part-time paid employment, enrolling for external courses, singing for the first time in public, or taking on QQI level 5 study. For others it means taking the big step of moving away from home for the first time or moving from a residential house you have loved to one you don't know so well because "It's important to make a change".



Working closely with families, with professional colleagues in ChildVision, with our HIQA regulators, with teachers, and with third-level providers our social care team have been there throughout 2023 to guide and encourage, to listen and advise, all the time ensuring that our young people feel supported to live lives of their own choosing.

Reading Services

We are a national service dedicated to empowering and supporting our students, all across Ireland, in their learning journeys. We do this through the provision of alternative format schoolbooks, including braille, large print, digital, text-file, tactile and 3D formats, leisure reading materials through our extensive children's library service and the promotion and support of assistive technology use.

We transcribe school curriculum materials for all students with a registered visual impairment, in primary and secondary education, in both mainstream and special schools across Ireland. This service is funded through the Department of Education and is supported by a strong collaboration between Reading Services and the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) via the Visiting Teachers for the Visually Impaired (VTVI) Service.

To further support our students as they develop their love of reading, our children's library offers a vast collection of popular children's book titles from authors such as Roald Dahl, David Walliams, and Francesca Simon. For the development of pre-braille tactile reading skills, we have an ever-growing collection of tactile books that introduce a child to reading with their fingertips. Our knowledgeable library staff are always available to provide guidance and book suggestions to all of our members in person, as well as over the phone and by email.

With growing interest and developments in Assistive Technology (AT), we've developed a strong set of skills and knowledge in AT within our team that allows us to support our students in using our books with a variety of devices. To further support this, in 2023 we launched our Assistive Technology Lending Library that allows our students to borrow and try out a number of different AT devices in home and at school.

Our team works collaboratively across all departments within ChildVision. We provide storytime sessions throughout the school year for students in Early Years and St. Joseph's Primary School for the Visually Impaired; this includes both in-class and in-library sessions. Over the last year we supported work experience opportunities for our Pathways students. And throughout the year we work with other departments, across a number of collaborations such as for Summer Programme, fundraising tours, student assessments, cross-campus projects, and outreach events like Towers and Tales and the children's literature festivals.



Provision of Educational Materials



We continued to have another strong year of production and provision of alternative format books in 2023. Over the course of the calendar year, we fulfilled 8123 orders, compared to 7367 in 2022 and 7095 in 2021.

With our students' increased access to assistive technology, there is a growing demand for digital book formats, often in addition to hard copy large print and braille requests.

We are here to support our students learning needs as comprehensively as possible and to support the provision of as many formats that they need to empower them in their education.

Engagement and Outreach

Reading Services was involved in many engagement activities and outreach programmes throughout the year including...



Braille Reading Day 2023, ChildVision Campus

2023 brought the return of our first in-person Braille Reading Day on campus since 2019, after having to postpone this event due to Covid in previous years. Braille Reading Day is a highlight of our year, where we invite our students from all over the country to come to our campus in Drumcondra and read a piece in braille, that they have either written or chosen from a favourite book, in front of their friends, families and teachers. This day celebrates our students, their amazing braille skills and their inspiring creativity. We were delighted to have our students back on

campus and reading their beautiful braille pieces to us.



Towers and Tales Book Festival, Lismore Castle, Waterford

We have participated in this festival for the last 5 years, along with the Early Years' Cork team, and last April's festival was another incredible success. We hosted many story sessions for enthusiastic audiences – sharing the sensory story experience that our students experience with a wide audience of young people, where we include creative props that the children can touch, hear, taste and smell. We also raised awareness about the work that Reading Services and Early Years does by exhibiting books in braille and large print, plus items in 3D, and showcased many sensory materials used in our Early Years' Service in Cork and Dublin.

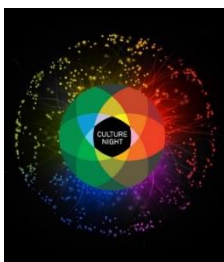


Cruinniú na nÓg, Blanchardstown

We have continued to grow our relationship with Libraries Ireland especially their Fingal Library Service. In May 2023, we took part in Cruinniú na nÓg, a day of creativity for children which was held in Millennium Park in Blanchardstown. It is an event that is unique to Ireland, and is the flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth Plan, which aims to enable the creative potential of children and young people. We had a full display of braille and other formats plus activities which raised awareness of how our students perceive the world. We engaged with the public, including An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, and raised awareness around the important work that we do.



Culture Night 2023

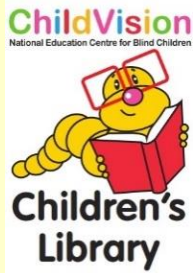


In September 2023, we were invited to support Fingal Libraries' Culture Night event in Blanchardstown. Children who participated in the Summer Reading Programme were invited to enjoy all the festivities and receive their awards. All the enthusiastic young readers were interested in learning all about braille and how books are read by a visually impaired person. The families were delighted to have their names in braille and to get to participate in the many of our activities, to let them experience their world without sight and gain a better understanding of visual impairment. Many of these keen readers were naturals at cracking the braille codes in our word searches and riddles.



Fingal Festival of Children's Literature

Also in September, we took part in the Fingal Festival of Children's Literature on a beautiful sunny day in Swords Castle. We had our full braille and book display and had a great amount of visitors who learned all about braille and experienced our sensory tables. The curator, author Shane Hegarty said, "To see so many kids walking around with their braille name badges was fantastic. ChildVision brought something special to the day". We are hoping to attend his event again in 2024.



This continues to be a popular and important service that opens up our students' imaginations and allows them to read all their favourite books and authors in their preferred formats including braille, twin vision, large print, audio and digital. Our library catalogue is constantly growing, with hundreds of titles added in 2023, to ensure that our students can read the same titles that all of their peers are reading.

In 2023, our library membership grew to over 1,400 members and we loaned out over 1,900 titles, up from 1,100 in 2022!

We kept a full schedule of sensory storytime session across the school terms where we welcomed students into the library or visited them in their classrooms to engage them in fun and imaginative sensory stories.

Resource Library

Our Resource Library supported our members in researching and learning more about visual impairment and multiple disabilities through our vast selection of reference materials, including access to the British Journal of Visual Impairment and the Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness.

Reading Services Tactile Book Programme

Tactile books provide a gateway to braille and are the avenue by which our students learn to use their fingers for sensory processing and exploration. Reading Services have operated a Tactile Book Project with secondary schools around the country for the last decade.

In this project, we teach students how to create tactile books, and it concludes with their presentation to us of a new set of tactile books for our library which they have made for us as part of their school year. In 2023 it was a great pleasure to be back in the classroom teaching the students all about these books and how they benefit our library users and their families.

We showcased many different types of tactile books and offered guidance on how to style and design a book using as many different materials and textures as possible. We are excited to be able to add their projects to our library catalogue and share them with our students.

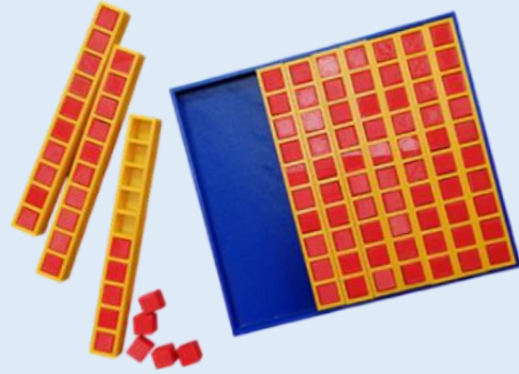


3D Printing

3D printing is an innovating and expanding area of work that continued to develop throughout 2023. It enables us to design, create, and produce tools to assist both the teacher and the student in learning through the sense of touch. 3-dimensional concepts that were previously unable to be reproduced in a braille tactile diagram can now be produced for our students in 3D print.

Through this technology, our students are able to hold a specially designed item in their hands, to better understand a concept. 3D items are further enhanced by the addition of braille embossed on the item designed to foster independent learning. Difficult concepts that all students face, such as fractions, become more tangible and understandable.

In our **3D Print Hub**, located just beside the library, students and their teachers can visit to learn more about our 3D printing in action. We have a wide variety of 3D printed materials available, free of charge, to any of our students – ranging from our 3D printed clock, fraction wall, braille cell, a full maths kit, 100 square and beyond. **We are always looking for suggestions of new 3D printed concepts that we could develop to aid our students in their learning.**



Assistive Technology (AT) Donation and Lending Library

In 2023 we were delighted to receive a generous donation of Assistive Technology (AT) equipment from Essilor Luxotica, Transitions Optical, and HumanWare. This donation included items such as the Braille Note Touch braille display, Connect 12 tablet and desktop magnifier, Reveal 16 CCTV device, handheld magnifiers, and others.

These items have been greatly supporting and enhancing AT assessments and our team, allowing us to promote the use of AT with as many of our students nationwide as possible, and to introduce them to the great range of technology available.

The donation allowed us to launch our **Assistive Technology Lending Library** in 2023, which has been a goal of ours in recent years. Through this service, students are able to borrow a selection of items, including the Connect 12, Braille Note Touch and handheld magnifiers on a short term basis (4 weeks that can be extended to 6 weeks), to try out the technology, and to use if they have a piece of their own equipment out for repair. This exciting advancement in our AT service is welcomed by our students and their Visiting Teachers.

The creation of our AT lending library has strengthened our AT support team and, more importantly, is helping us to empower our students in accessing their school materials and information through innovative technology.



Family Services and Outreach 2023

At ChildVision's Family Services department, we ran an action-packed Annual Events Calendar featuring over 40 enriching experiences! From sports and recreational adventures to educational sessions and relaxing respite opportunities, there was something for every child with visual impairment and/or complex needs, alongside their families.

Each event was meticulously crafted, seamlessly blending fun and learning to cater to the unique needs of children facing visual impairments and other challenges, ensuring an unforgettable experience for the whole family. Sci Vis Space Camp at NASA's centre in the U.S. was not an option this year as international travel had not fully returned to normal operations.

We are equally dedicated to empowering professionals and offered cutting edge workshops and training sessions, catering to mainstream educators, allied professionals, and specialised service providers.

Our collaborative virtual workshops with Sight and Sound Technology have become a staple of our calendar and attracted a large participation from students, parents/guardians, and professionals. In the Autumn we partnered with Sight and Sound for their roadshow across Ireland and raised awareness regarding ChildVision.

Every event was bookable via the Tito platform, and regularly advertised on all of our social media channels, with an ever growing nationwide audience, which in turn has increased the numbers referred to ChildVision for assessments and of students availing of our service. Our flexibility has allowed us to evolve, offering a dynamic blend of learning

At the heart of our mission lies outreach, a cornerstone of ChildVision's commitment to equipping students with the life skills they need for independence, career success, and beyond. This approach was shaped by the voices and aspirations of our students and their families, ensuring every initiative was finely tuned to their needs.

Through our programme, we championed awareness, spreading the word about our invaluable services and supports with school visits, giving resource presentations, and making national conference appearances. Examples in 2023 were presentations at the Féach Annual Day and the National Parents Council plus attendance at the ICO (Irish College of Ophthalmologists) and AHEAD conferences. Dovetailed with this was the distribution of information to schools, resource centres, eye hospitals, and other relevant service providers.

We would like to acknowledge that Family Services & Outreach are dependent on the synergies of staff teams to operate our events, from catering to therapies to social care and the Pathways programme.

A particular success of 2023 was ChildVision's 5 Year Erasmus Adult Learning accreditation project where we were granted funding to work with other European schools and centres with the objective of presenting our findings to the European Parliament. We welcomed the opportunity to communicate, collaborate and develop projects with partners from other European countries offering us the opportunity to create training links and participate in common projects through the sharing of ideas. In addition it provided us with the possibility of creating strategic partnerships.



Going forward, we will use the results platform to give publicity and visibility to all projects. Participants will be invited to talk to their peers about their experience and be interviewed on video for social media. This exciting project will culminate in the presentation of results by our students to the European parliament in 2027.

The initial centre we have identified for collaboration with is INJA (The Institute for Blind Youth) in Paris where we will begin with student exchanges and staff job shadowing opportunities.



Another highlight of 2023 for us was 'TechFest' which ran over two days in May and showcased 14 Assistive Technology suppliers from across Ireland, N.I. and the UK to a phenomenal footfall of students, parents, professionals, and assistive technology experts.

We are nothing without our service users and their families. Our staff teams were again critical in delivering our 2023 Summer Programme, and to the provision of an unforgettable week of fun and friendship. Here is a snapshot from our external evaluator's report for this event:

"24 blind and visually impaired Campers ranging in age from 10 – 24 years and split into three, mixed age groups as follows -

10 – 13 years (8 Campers), 14 – 17 years (8 Campers), 17 – 24 years (8 Campers)

A number of the Campers in each age group also had additional needs.

Activities over the course of the five day Camp were a mix of physical and creative and included Clay Modelling, Judo, Horse-

Riding, Sports for Fun, Planting & Potting, Cooking up a Storm, Tai Chi, Soccer, Indoor Rowing, Making Music, Yoga, Art and Imagination, Cricket, Tennis, Boxing, Golf, Creative Art Therapy, Fill up your Senses, Creative Art Therapy, Archery".



Camper Testimonials

Camper 1 (Age 16), had no previous experience of Camp or Childvision and explained what it meant to be attending. This week at Camp was the first Camp ever attended and was thoroughly enjoyed and the plan is to come back again next year. The Camper was very sociable and chatty, and takes part in Blind Tennis and swims regularly, but does not have friends to meet with during school holidays and feels isolated and bored at these times. The opportunity to spend a week in company with lots going on and to make new friends was immense.

When asked about activities done the Camper expressed enjoyment of almost all the physical sports, and also the Music and Art, but would have loved more time horse-riding.

Camper 2 (Age 16 / Additional Needs), also spoke about how they had enjoyed Camp this year.

This Camper, who also attended last year, enjoyed some of the sports activities but expressed a particular interest in the Music and Art. The Camper seemed to have particularly enjoyed the company and interaction, and mentioned the names of both Staff and Campers amongst their highlights of the week.

2023 concluded with a memorable Santa Experience and Christmas Party for our littlest learners along with their families.

Research & Training

Part of ChildVisions role is to provide training and guidance to both internal staff and professionals working in the Visual impairment community. As part of this mandate we provided the following:

Clinical Governance – Directed Learning

We co-chaired a Directed Learning Group, which included developing

- A Mandatory Training list
- Online Induction
A structure for the online element of Induction, with 10 sections has been developed. Work is ongoing to populate the sections with required content to make the course available to new staff for induction and to existing staff for review.
- An ADL Course
We designed and delivered a 6 day ADL course for staff from Social Care, Pathways, Therapies, and Reading Services.
- Materials for Visual Impairment training for 96 CDNTs have been gathered, ready to create online modules.

Conference Papers IMC18 and 14th International Low Vision Conference

At the **IMC18, Poland** we presented 2 workshops and 1 paper on the topic of rapid movement and low vision.

At **The International Low Vision Conference, Denver, Colorado**, we presented a panel presentation and a paper, promoting the interrelationship of equine assisted therapy and acquisition of independent living skills, and the use of low vision skills at speed and in complex environments.

Specialist Courses relating to our Visual Impairment Specialism and Practice Developments

A Functional Vision Assessment Workshop was delivered to internal and external professionals online. This will become an in-person course in 2024

A number of practice development initiatives to improve the consistency of interventions by all involved working with each student have been developed from the work of the first ADL group and the Directed Learning group. These are

- An ADL Assessment Form and process
- An organisational (shared) ADL Programme Template
- The creation of a Programme Library (on Moodle)
- A process whereby the standard programme can be taken from the library and adapted to meet the specific needs of a student. The adapted programme will be available via CRM to all working with the student
- A lesson plan template to enable structured implementation of the programme with each student

An ADL Kitchen has been built thanks to collaboration between existing ADL Assessors, the maintenance team, the ADL group, and this department. It will be used for courses, assessments and training for students.



ChildVision's application for membership of ENVITER was accepted in May 2023 and we became a member of the O&M Working Group.

This group is working on the development of a European accredited O&M course and professional practice standards.

We attended the Blue Sky meeting to review and discuss project ideas. As a result, ChildVision will be a project partner on 'A Taste of Independence'.



indie4all

The project completed in October 2023. ChildVision wrote the content for, and created 8 units, on including children with a visual impairment in inclusive classrooms.

These units are now available to ChildVision staff for training on visual impairment, on our eLearning platform Moodle, in a course called Visual Impairment and Inclusion.

A new (follow-on) project is being proposed for submission in March 2024.



Risk Management at ChildVision

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 2023 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. 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 board Committees and the Board itself.

ChildVision 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

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 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 will 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.

Risk Level	High	Medium	Low
Number of Risks	6	26	38

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

The 6 high risks identified as a result of the risk review are as follows:

Risk Description and Movement 2023
<p>Increased Waiting list for services</p> <p>Movement: Increased Waiting list for services developed during the year</p>
<p>Principle Control Measures</p>
<p>Seek PDS funding for new staff Seek Funding for Cork Staff Investigate 12 month Provision</p>
<p>Focus for 2023 and 2024</p>
<p>Follow up on funding for services</p>

Risk Description and Movement 2023
<p>Need to target unrestricted funds</p> <p>Movement: Unrestricted funding continues to reduce.</p>
<p>Principle Control Measures</p>
<p>Budgeting and forecasting Revised Fundraising Strategy</p>
<p>Focus for 2023 and 2024</p>
<p>Appoint new Head of Fundraising Implement Fundraising Strategy</p>

Risk Description and Movement 2023
<p>Inherent infrastructural defects of the Building due to age of the Premises.</p> <p>Movement: Planning for Campus redevelopment continues</p>
<p>Principle Control Measures</p>
<p>Devise and implement a Campus redevelopment project Seek funding for the redevelopment Appoint advisors to help identify and resolve defects in the building and ensure resolved as part of the Campus redevelopment</p>
<p>Focus for 2023 and 2024</p>
<p>Funding plans have been put in place to fund the redevelopment plans – Funding will take a number of years to be received. We have appointed relevant advisors</p>

Risk Description and Movement 2023
<p>Inability for all staff to be on current HSE scales</p> <p>Movement: Increased from the previous year given historical pay scales and WRC case against Section 39 companies.</p>
<p>Principle Control Measures</p>
<p>Communication with staff Discussion with funders Address the historical pay scales we are paying when finances allow</p>
<p>Focus for 2023 and 2024</p>
<p>Have received communication from the HSE that some funding will be received. Are looking for clarification of amounts Also discussing with the Dept. of Education</p>

Risk Description and Movement 2023
<p>Over reliant on key staff</p> <p>Movement: Increased from the previous year given historical pay scale issues</p>
<p>Principle Control Measures</p>
<p>Hr policies and procedures in place Cross training Succession planning</p>
<p>Focus for 2023 and 2024</p>
<p>Renewed and revised succession planning Address the historical; pay scales we are paying when finances allow</p>

Risk Description and Movement 2023
<p>No increase in Government funding for inflationary pressures</p> <p>Movement: Increased for the previous year given continued inflation</p>
<p>Principle Control Measures</p>
<p>Budgeting and forecasting Service Level Agreement (SLA) in place Market knowledge Strategic Plan 2023 - 26</p>
<p>Focus for 2023 and 2024</p>
<p>Increased meeting with the HSE Preparing back up information to back up the need for increased funding</p>

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

Theme	Tolerance Level	Specific Areas
Quality	Strongly averse	Poor quality care Unacceptable clinical risk. Non-compliance with national and professional standards. Poor clinical or professional practice
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	Unprofessional conduct/bullying Competence to perform roles or tasks safely. Incidents which may compromise the safety of others
Regulation	Strongly averse	Non-compliance with legislation/regulatory frameworks in which we operate
Information	Zero tolerance	Data protection breaches Non-compliance with data protection and/or privacy legislation/regulatory information governance
Reputation	Zero tolerance	Breaches in high standards of conduct/ethics/ professionalism Risks or circumstances that could cause reputational damage to ChildVision or our stakeholders
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. 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 2023

For 2023 and beyond, our risk team, together with the Board and the 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 which 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 and Adult Safeguarding Training

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, to child protection and vulnerable adult guidance documents and in a suite of in-house policies and procedures, all of which 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, are Garda vetted at regular intervals.

Aware that issues of disability adds further complexity to the area of good safeguarding practice, all ChildVision’s 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 regularly 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. There is also a trained in-house child and vulnerable adult protection officer who, as a senior manager, is available as a resource to staff and who regularly advises ChildVision’s board on child protection and vulnerable protection best practice and all other relevant matters.





ChildVision
Financial
Statements
2023

Contents

Directors and Other Information	2
Report of the Directors	3
Statement of Directors Responsibilities	10
Report of the Auditors	11
Statement of Financial Activities	13
Balance Sheet	14
Cashflow Statement	15
Notes to the Financial Statements	16

Directors and Other Information

DIRECTORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shane Cowley(Chairman)• Joseph O'Reilly• Michael Monaghan• Marian Harte• Maureen Mulligan• Maureen Winston	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ray Bowe• Vincent Keenan• Raffaella Bonomonte• Aine Myler (resigned 29 June 2023)• Stephen Brewer (resigned 15 March 2023)
SECRETARY	L & P Trustee Services Limited	
FINANCE COMMITTEE	Ray Bowe Maureen Mulligan Shane Cowley	
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE	Raffaella Bonomonte Vincent Keenan Michael Monaghan	
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	Vincent Keenan Shane Cowley Joseph O'Reilly Ray Bowe	
QUALITY AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE	Joseph O'Reilly Marian Harte Maureen Winston	
AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE	Maureen Mulligan Michael Monaghan Maureen Winston	
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	Barry Sheridan (appointed 1 March 2024)	
MANAGEMENT TEAM	<i>Deputy Chief Executive</i> <i>Director of Finance</i> <i>Director of Care</i> <i>Director of Education</i> <i>Director of Pathways</i> <i>Director of People and Culture</i>	Sinead Fitzpatrick Richard Murphy James Forbes Ilka Staeglin Amanda Deaton Gerry Fallon
CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER	James Forbes	
COMPANY NUMBER	453711	
CHY No	CHY817	
CHARITY NUMBER	20001278	
REGISTERED OFFICE	Cantor Fitzgerald House 23 Stephen's Green Dublin 2 D02 AR55	
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	Grace Park Road, Drumcondra Dublin 9 D09 WK0H	
AUDITORS	Crowe Ireland Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm 40 Mespil Road Dublin 4	
BANKERS	AIB Bank Clonmel Co. Tipperary	Bank of Ireland O'Connell Street Dublin
SOLICITORS	Drumgoole Solicitors 102 Upper Drumcondra Road Drumcondra Dublin 9	Byrne Wallace 88 Harcourt Street Saint Kevin's Dublin 2

Report of the Directors

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

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 is the registered company name and is recognised as a charity by the Charity Regulatory Authority.

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

2.2 Governance

ChildVision has five 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. Board members undergo an induction programme to ensure that collectively they have the capacity necessary to ensure the proper governance of the organisation. Ongoing training for board members is arranged on a regular basis. 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 2.

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
- Oversight of the operation of IT systems and personnel.

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
- Review of the effectiveness of systems, financial controls and procedures
- Oversight of the arrangements in place to facilitate the making and investigation of "whistleblowing"
- 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 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. The Development Committee also oversees the implementation of the Campus Redevelopment.

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 Tusla and 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 2009 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 2023

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 149 staff. There were 24 volunteers on campus last year working across equine, the garden centre, lifelong learning and reading services. 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 2023, ChildVision continued its focus on service delivery of learning and therapeutic innovation.

ChildVision have met the main objectives of their strategy 2018-2023. During 2023 a series of stakeholder consultations and staff workshops took place to identify the key objectives and interrogate the Vision, Mission and Values of the organisation to ensure the Board, SMT, and all our colleagues have an ambitious and comprehensive roadmap for development and delivery over the next five years. In parallel the organisation also undertook a Sustainability Audit and strategic process to ensure we are approaching our work with the highest values of ESG practice. Work on both pieces of strategic planning will conclude in 2024.

Throughout 2023 the Board continued 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

ChildVision is financed by a mix of state and voluntary funding. In 2023, ChildVision raised a total income of €9,905,903 (2022 €12,640,557) for charitable purposes, a decrease of €2,734,654.

ChildVision's income was generated through four main sources:

- Government funding, primarily allocated through the Health Service Executive and the Department of Education increased in 2023 by €744,232. The increase was principally because capital grant amounts received in 2023 in relation to contribution towards some capital spending.
- Donations received from donors including elements to fund the planned Campus re-development of €713,000
- Other fundraising activity € 922,461 up 28% on 2022 and
- the balance from on-campus social enterprises and rental income (€569,924 up 23% on 2022 –primarily due to the increase in rent charged and activity in our social enterprises)
- In 2022 ChildVision recognised €4.4 million of income from philanthropic donations which had been received previously as the planning permission for the related development was received during the year.

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 2023 was €8,861,303 (2022 €8,513,505). This represents an increase of €347,798. The main underlying reasons for the increase in expenditure relate to:

- increased salary costs as we increased headcount
- General inflationary pressures.

Our charitable activities accounted for 87% of all our expenditure (88% in 2022).

Capital expenditure during the year included:

- IT infrastructure
- Improvements to our Café and Garden centre locations
- Design work on the new Campus re-development.

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 2023, ChildVision had funds of €7,196,917 (2022 €6,152,317). Of this, €6,128,234 (2022 €4,903,033) is held for restricted purposes, as the funds were donated for specific projects or services – principally the Campus redevelopment project which received planning permission in 2022.

At 31 December 2023, the unrestricted funds amounted to €1,068,683 (2022 €1,249,284). 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.

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
- Overreliance on key staff and Inability to pay HSE scales to staff
- Need to target unrestricted funds.

6. Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The war in Ukraine which commenced in February 2022 is still ongoing. It has continued to contribute to general business risks. These include disruptions to energy supplies alongside a sharp increase in prices, 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 and also a reduction in fundraising income.

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

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 2022 and 2023, 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 D09 WK0H.

11. Plans for the future

In 2024, we will begin our new Strategy with renewed objectives to deliver a world-class service to children and young people with sight loss and complex needs. Our core values of compassion, reflection and innovation will underpin our Strategy and sustain an enduring culture of dignity.

We will continue with the next phase of the campus re-development in partnership with the HSE and begin the detailed phased project planning of our build, ensuring an uninterrupted flow of service to our families at all stages. We will also continue to strive for a sustainable model of funding in a challenging environment, seeking to maximise all channels and business development opportunities available. As always, our people will be at the centre of everything we do.

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



Ray Bowe

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS

20 June 2024

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



Ray Bowe

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS

20 June 2024

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 2023, 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 2023 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.

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

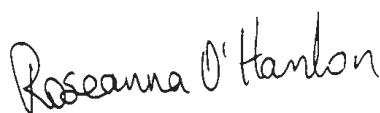
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee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

Date: 28 June 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total 2023 €	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total 2022 €
Income and endowments from							
Donations and legacies	4	794,519	771,020	1,565,539	655,934	4,428,500	5,084,434
Other trading activities	5	639,846	-	639,846	556,548	-	556,548
Charitable activities	6	26,657	7,673,651	7,700,308	11,416	6,988,159	6,999,575
Investment	8	210	-	210	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		1,461,232	8,444,671	9,905,903	1,223,898	11,416,659	12,640,557
Expenditure on							
Charitable activities	10	499,332	7,219,470	7,718,802	468,481	7,009,400	7,477,881
Raising funds	11	1,142,501	-	1,142,501	1,034,494	-	1,034,494
Other expenditure/(income)	13	-	-	-	915	215	1,130
TOTAL		1,641,833	7,219,470	8,861,303	1,503,890	7,009,615	8,513,505
NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS		(180,601)	1,225,201	1,044,600	(279,992)	4,407,044	4,127,052
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	26/ 27	1,249,284	4,903,033	6,152,317	1,529,276	495,989	2,025,265
TOTAL FUND CARRIED FORWARD	26/ 27	1,068,683	6,128,234	7,196,917	1,249,284	4,903,033	6,152,317

All income and expenditure arises from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 €	2022 €
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	18	2,438,406	2,201,171
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	19	549,821	316,088
Stocks	20	737	1,452
Cash at bank and in hand	21	5,950,417	5,693,232
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		6,500,975	6,010,772
CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)	22	(684,251)	(1,047,126)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		5,816,724	4,963,646
CREDITORS (amounts falling due after one year)	23	(1,058,213)	(1,012,500)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		7,196,917	6,152,317
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted funds	26	1,068,683	1,249,284
Restricted funds	27	6,128,234	4,903,033
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		7,196,917	6,152,317

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 20 June 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Shane Cowley



Ray Bowe

Cashflow Statement

as at 31 December 2023

	<i>Notes</i>	2023 €	2022 €
NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	29	1,170,255	183,688
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	29	(4,770)	(906)
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES	29	(599,650)	(334,205)
<hr/>			
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD	30	565,835	(151,423)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	30	5,274,685	5,426,108
<hr/>			
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	30	5,840,520	5,274,685
<hr/>			

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

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 D02 AR55.

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.

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. Accounting Policies (continued)

2.13 Holiday Pay Accrual

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

2.14 Pensions

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

2.15 Operating Leases

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

2.16 Taxation

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

2.17 Going Concern

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

3. Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

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

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

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

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

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

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 2023 €	Restricted Funds 2023 €	Total 2023 €	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €
Donations	794,519	771,020	1,565,539	655,934	4,428,500	5,084,434

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 2023 €	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €
Income from commercial social enterprises	423,320	358,683
Fundraising campaigns and events	69,922	90,664
Profit on disposal of asset	1,629	-
Rental income	144,975	107,201
	639,846	556,548

ChildVision operates a number of 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 2023. Additionally, ChildVision received rental income from the Department of Education, and the Learning Tree Crèche which related to the renting of space.

6. Income from Charitable Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023 €	Restricted Funds 2023 €	Total 2023 €	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €
Health Service Executive	(a)	-	6,153,254	6,153,254	-	5,395,342	5,395,342
Department of Education	(b)	-	1,325,904	1,325,904	-	1,325,904	1,325,904
Other performance grants	(c)	-	194,493	194,493	-	266,913	266,913
All other sources of income	(c)	26,657	-	26,657	11,416	-	11,416
		26,657	7,673,651	7,700,308	11,416	6,988,159	6,999,575

(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, Pathways, therapeutic services and business supports.

6. Income from Charitable Activities (continued)

(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, 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

	Restricted Funds 2023 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €
HSE Dublin North / Dublin North Central /Dublin West – Ongoing services grant	4,582,545	4,555,899
HSE Dublin North / Dublin North Central /Dublin West – Capital contributions	593,000	243,110
HSE Other West/ North west	27,667	19,000
HSE Community Healthcare East	14,000	21,000
HSE Other South/South West	269,999	253,332
HSE South East Community Healthcare	27,427	26,427
HSE Ireland East	52,119	60,000
HSE Dublin North East/Dublin Midlands	122,135	118,013
HSE Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation	112,245	80,757
HSE other	352,117	17,804
Pobal - Early Childhood Care and Educational	162,173	119,729
Pobal - Dormant accounts fund	-	59,087
Leargas – Erasmus	21,648	-
Department of Education - Braille Grant	1,280,000	1,280,000
Department of Education - Executive Salary grant	45,904	45,904
Dublin County Council - School Meals	10,672	29,357
	7,673,651	6,929,419

Included in Restricted Funds are the above amounts which have been received from Government agencies for the provision of services to our Service Users, with the exception of €593,000 which represents contributions toward capital expenditure.

7. State funding (continued)

	Restricted Funds 2023 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €
Department of Justice	-	4,400,000
	-	4,400,000

Income from the Department of Justice is from its Immigrant Investor Programme (IIP) and was recognised in 2022 in Restricted Funds as the Campus Redevelopment for which the funds have been received over the last three years received planning permission during that year.

8. Investment

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 €	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €
Investment income	210	-
	210	-

9. Interest Payable and Similar Charges

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 €	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €
On bank overdrafts	589	906
Lease Finance charges	4,391	-
	4,980	906

10. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 €	Restricted Funds 2023 €	Total 2023 €	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €
Provision of education and related services	258,443	4,821,083	5,079,526	260,668	4,686,067	4,946,735
Provision of residential services	-	240,745	240,745	1,167	281,926	283,093
All other services and charitable activities	135,317	2,157,642	2,292,959	117,468	2,041,407	2,158,875
Governance Costs (see note 12c)	105,572	-	105,572	89,178	-	89,178
	499,332	7,219,470	7,718,802	468,481	7,009,400	7,477,881

Of ChildVision's expenditure, 87 per cent is dedicated to charitable purposes (2022: 88%). 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 Reading Services unit produces Braille book volumes, large print book volumes, text files, DAISY files, EPUB files and 3D printed objects. During 2023, the overall production was 8,123 compared to 7,367 in 2022.

11. Cost of Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 €	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €
Payroll costs of Fundraising	125,852	159,935
Payroll cost of Commercial enterprises	425,450	186,914
Commercial enterprises	330,202	284,392
Other costs of raising funds	249,266	393,344
Governance Costs (see note 12c)	11,731	9,909
	1,142,501	1,034,494

Generation of funds accounts for approximately 11 % of expenditure (2022: 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	6,895,826	616,580	97,042	7,609,448
Depreciation of fixed assets	326,545	-	-	326,545
Allocation of support costs	816,309	88,740	20,261	925,310
	8,038,680	705,320	117,303	8,861,303

(c) Governance Costs

	Raising Funds €	Charitable Activities €	2023 €	2022 €
Company secretarial services	1,169	10,516	11,685	19,680
External governance review	2,596	23,369	25,965	28,469
Wages and salaries	2,026	18,235	20,261	19,081
Internal audit	1,707	15,359	17,066	4,920
External audit	2,833	25,493	28,326	20,787
Pension audit	1,400	12,600	14,000	6,150
	11,731	105,572	117,303	99,087

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 were re-imbursed in 2023 to the value of €363 (2022 €177). A Director is also a Director of L&P Trustee Services Limited. 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 expenditure

	Total 2023 €	Total 2022 €
Loss on disposal of tangible assets	-	1,130

14. Net movement in funds

	2023 €	2022 €
Net movement in funds is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	326,545	323,729
Loss on disposal of tangible assets	-	1,130
Auditors remuneration		
– Statutory audit	22,140	20,787
Operating lease rentals – Buildings	206,000	231,000

15. Employees and Staff Costs

The average number of employees (full-time, part-time and hourly rated) during the year was 149 (145 in 2022).

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

	2023 €	2022 €
Wages and salaries	5,443,458	5,290,849
Social welfare costs	576,324	568,294
Pension costs	314,803	287,123
Termination benefits	76,540	-
	6,411,125	6,146,266

15. Employees and Staff Costs (continued)

The number of staff earning benefits over €70,000, and their pension contributions is:

Salary Range	2023	2022	Employer Pension Contribution	Employer Pension Contribution
			2023	2022
			€	€
€70,001 - €80,000	3	4	15,506	20,272
€80,001 - €90,000	3	3	18,786	17,667
€90,001 - €100,000	1	-	6,749	-
€100,001 - €110,000	-	1	-	7,543
€120,001 - €130,000	1	-	4,455	-

Key Management Personnel

The senior management team's total remuneration cost was €553,789 (2022: €592,396) in the year. Pension contributions were €34,568 (2022: €41,553).

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% 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 €314,803 (€287,123 in 2022).

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 2023	615,757	1,733,976	370,153	1,334,849	859,803	4,914,538
Additions	96,357	58,713	117,072	232,655	60,102	564,899
Disposals	(68,010)	(220,673)	(37,450)	-	-	(326,133)
At 31 December 2023	644,104	1,572,016	449,775	1,567,504	919,905	5,153,304
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 January 2023	511,838	1,432,304	316,166	-	453,058	2,713,366
Charge for the year	98,755	94,389	41,410	-	91,991	326,545
On disposals	(68,000)	(219,563)	(37,450)	-	-	(325,013)
At 31 December 2023	542,593	1,307,130	320,126	-	545,049	2,714,898
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 December 2023	101,511	264,886	129,649	1,567,504	374,856	2,438,406
At 31 December 2022	103,919	301,672	53,987	1,334,849	406,744	2,201,171

Included above are assets held under finance leases as follows:

	2023 €	2022 €
Net Book Value	92,568	-
Depreciation for the year	23,142	-

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

	2023 €	2022 €
Other debtors	517,333	265,585
Prepayments	32,488	50,503
	549,821	316,088

20. Stocks

	2023 €	2022 €
Food and beverage stock	737	1,452

21. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2023 €	2022 €
Cash in bank	5,950,417	5,693,232

22. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 €	2022 €
Bank overdraft	5,756	418,547
Net obligations under finance leases (note 24)	20,928	-
Trade creditors	121,180	88,124
Accruals	300,180	297,377
Payroll taxes	182,005	192,751
Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	37,500	37,500
Value Added Tax	16,702	12,827
	684,251	1,047,126

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

	2023 €	2022 €
Loan - Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	975,000	1,012,500
Net obligations under finance leases (note 24)	83,213	-
	1,058,213	1,012,500

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

	2023 €	2022 €
Opening balance	1,050,000	1,087,500
Loan repayments	(37,500)	(37,500)
	1,012,500	1,050,000

24. Net Obligations under Finance Leases

	2023 €	2022 €
Not later than one year	20,928	-
Later than one year and not later than five years	83,213	-
	104,141	-

25. Reconciliation of Net Assets

	Unrestricted funds €	Restricted funds €	Total funds €
Tangible assets	2,438,406	-	2,438,406
Current assets	521,201	5,979,774	6,500,975
Creditors	(1,742,464)	-	(1,742,464)
Net assets	1,217,143	5,979,774	7,196,917

26. Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at beginning of year €	Incoming resources €	Resources expended €	Balance at end of year €
Unrestricted funds 2023	1,249,284	1,461,232	(1,641,833)	1,068,683
Unrestricted funds 2022	1,529,276	1,223,898	(1,503,890)	1,249,284

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 €
Restricted funds 2023	4,903,033	8,444,671	(7,219,470)	6,128,234
Restricted funds 2022	495,989	11,416,659	(7,009,615)	4,903,033

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

28. Details of Borrowings

Maturity analysis	Within 1 year €	Between 1 & 2 years €	Between 2 & 5 years €	After 5 years €	Total €
REPAYABLE OTHER THAN BY INSTALMENTS					
Bank overdraft	5,756	-	-	-	5,756
REPAYABLE IN INSTALMENTS					
Net obligations under Finance Leases	20,928	83,213	-	-	104,141
Loan Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	37,500	37,500	112,500	825,000	1,012,500
At end of year	64,184	120,713	112,500	825,000	1,122,397

30. Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalents

	Opening balance €	Cash flows €	Closing balance €
Cash at bank and in hand	5,693,232	257,185	5,950,417
Overdrafts	(418,547)	412,791	(5,756)
Finance Lease obligations	-	(104,141)	(104,141)
Total cash and cash equivalents	5,274,685	565,835	5,840,520

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 €206,000 and €50,000 in pastoral services.

The Learning Tree shares common members with the company. MPC Learning Tree had a related party transaction of €205,498 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 (€19,680 in 2022).

32. Commitments Under Operating Leases

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

	2023 €	2022 €
Not later than one year	181,000	231,000
Later than one year and not later than five years	724,000	924,000

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 €420,445 for 2023 which are not provided in the financial statements.

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.

35. Going Concern

ChildVision continues to operate, 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

There are no significant post Balance sheet events since the year-end.

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 20 June 2024.



ChildVision

National Education Centre for Blind Children

Grace Park Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9

Eircode: D09 WK0H

Tel: 01 8373635

Email: info@childvision.ie

www.childvision.ie

