



Solving Kids' Cancer UK

# Annual report and accounts 2020/21

# Report contents

<b>Our impact</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>About us</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Supporting and enabling clinical research in the UK</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Reviewing and enhancing our support</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Accessing best available treatments and most promising clinical trials</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Enhancing and inspiring public support</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Harnessing the combined power of the neuroblastoma community</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Strengthening governance</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium 2020</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Achievements and performance</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Future plans</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Structure, governance and management</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Objectives and activities</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Our legal and administrative details</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Financial review</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Independent auditors report to the Trustees and members of Solving Kids' Cancer UK</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Financial statements</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Notes to the financial statements</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Thank you!</b>	<b>58</b>



## Who's on our cover?

Daya is 4 years old. She is a fun-loving, smiley, and resilient little girl and loves spending time with her twin sister Jasmine and older sister Anaya.

Daya was diagnosed with high-risk neuroblastoma in 2017 at just 11 months old. She began intense and aggressive frontline treatment but following chemotherapy doctors advised that Daya's primary tumour was inoperable due to its position. We supported the family to fundraise an incredible £362,000 for specialised life-saving surgery in New York which removed the remaining neuroblastoma tumour.

After enduring two and a half years of harsh treatment, including extensive surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and painful immunotherapy, Daya is now in remission and doing well.



# Our impact

**Solving Kids Cancer UK is fighting for a future where no child dies of neuroblastoma or suffers due to the treatment they receive.**

Children with neuroblastoma simply do not have the time to wait. We are responsible to the children, their families and to those who support us, to demonstrate the impact of our work, and the progress we are making. This year, with your support and despite the challenges COVID-19 has presented, we have achieved more than ever before:

- Increased our research funding by over 50%
- Worked with partners to award over £2.1million in research grants
- Ensured children in the UK have access to the same standard of care as those in Europe by funding the SIOPEN High-Risk Neuroblastoma 2 trial in the UK
- Provided support to more families than ever before in the charity's history
- Brought together over 700 registrants, from over 40 different countries to the inaugural Neuroblastoma Parent Global symposium
- Led an international partnership of parent charities, awarding \$1.3million, to enable the first-ever transatlantic collaboration between North American and European paediatric cancer consortia – a landmark in paediatric oncology research
- Supported 16 families to access their choice of treatment in the most challenging of years.
- Launched our Parent Involvement Forum
- Raised over £100,000 via community and event fundraising



# An introduction from our Chair

**It is so pleasing to see how Solving Kids' Cancer UK has stepped up once again this year, working tirelessly every day to put children with neuroblastoma first despite all the challenges of the pandemic. Fighting for all children by initiating and funding groundbreaking new research projects. Doing our best for each child by delivering a support service that looks after children and families with unrivalled care and commitment.**

You will read in these pages how we have succeeded in bringing together the major research groups from Europe and North America for the first time in history. Under our leadership, seven parent-led charities came together to provide the funding power, drive, and determination to advance precision medicine for children with newly diagnosed neuroblastoma through a new transatlantic clinical trial (TITAN). The trial stands as a testament to the collective determination of all partners to cure more young children afflicted by this terrible disease.

TITAN will be integrated into the new pan-European trial for children diagnosed with high-risk neuroblastoma. Solving Kids' Cancer UK is also a major funder of that trial, underlining the critical role we now have at the heart of UK research. It is vital for us to get this message out far and wide, to help grow our support and allow us to do even more to help children.

Nobody knows better than our Family Support Team about the challenges of dealing with a neuroblastoma diagnosis. As a charity we are proud to have parents at the heart of everything we do, working alongside other members of our staff team who routinely go the extra mile to meet the needs of families facing their darkest hours. The additional burdens resulting from the pandemic; financial, practical, and emotional, have made our support provision over the last year more vital than ever. Ensuring that families have been able to access clinical trials abroad through travel restrictions

and COVID-19 protocols may have stretched us to the limit, but our team has always managed to come through when required.

Whilst inevitably the pandemic prevented us from holding our

annual parent conference in 2020, it did not stop our pioneering spirit from seizing a new opportunity to bring together the neuroblastoma community, this time globally. Partnering with our American friends at Solving Kids' Cancer and Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Foundation (CNCF), we designed and delivered a two-day online symposium attended by over 700 delegates from more than 40 countries. It was incredible to witness how well this groundbreaking event was received.

I would like to send my sincere thanks to everyone who has supported Solving Kids' Cancer UK during this past year. From donations, to offers of assistance, to messages of support and encouragement, to simple words of appreciation. You have all helped us to deliver for children and families once again. Solving Kids' Cancer UK is not a large charity, and we don't aspire to be, but we do constantly strive to do more. I must pay tribute to Gail and our entire team for consistently going above and beyond despite the difficult circumstances we've all had to operate in this year. Finally, it would be remiss of me not to also mention the contribution of our Trustees, who have once again stepped up to help navigate the best course for the charity through this pandemic. It is a privilege to work alongside such dedicated people, each of whom generously volunteers their time in pursuit of the purpose at the heart of our charity and that drives us all – to help more children with neuroblastoma survive.

**Nick Bird**  
Chair of Trustees



**“From donations, to offers of assistance, to messages of support and encouragement, to simple words of appreciation. You have all helped us to deliver for children and families once again.”**

# From our CEO

**Of the many circumstances I had anticipated in readiness for becoming this charity's new CEO in April 2020, a global pandemic was certainly not one of them.**

COVID-19 hit just a few weeks prior to my joining the charity and certainly in those early few months, it dominated just about everything. We began the year with a great deal of uncertainty about how we would raise the funds we needed given the cancellation of all planned fundraising events.

Of even greater concern to us was how this pandemic would affect our families – families who are already experiencing the unimaginable challenges of a neuroblastoma diagnosis, undergoing intensive treatment, at a time when lockdown and social distancing measures meant that they had to become even further isolated from friends and family due to restrictions and parents often having to support their child in treatment alone, because only one parent was permitted on the ward. Alongside this isolation, came the additional financial challenges which are already a burden experienced by so many families undergoing cancer treatment as often one parent will give up work to provide full-time care. The pandemic led to many job losses and sadly our families were not immune to this and so these financial and practical challenges intensified for so many. To meet this need we introduced our emergency fund with our charity partner Joining Against Cancer in Kids (J-A-C-K) for families affected by neuroblastoma who faced immediate financial burdens because of the pandemic.

I am tremendously proud of how the team at Solving Kids' Cancer UK has risen to the challenges and delivered more than I could have imagined possible in this most difficult time. They have tackled each challenge head-on with a renewed sense of determination and commitment, and the achievements have been significant, but they've only been possible through working with partners. We strongly believe in the power of partnership and collaboration and this year have worked with more than ever before.

Over the course of the year we awarded two major research funding grants together with the widest range of parent-led charity partners across Europe and the USA. We are hugely grateful to all of our partners for sharing our dedication and commitment to fund international clinical trials that bring the most innovative therapy options closer to frontline treatment. I'd like to extend my thanks and ongoing gratitude to our Scientific Advisory Board for their time, expertise and the invaluable contribution they make to ensuring we make robust science-based decisions about research investments.

We reached out to our wider parent community this year through our Parent Survey and

gained valuable insights about how we could further develop and improve our services and incorporate the views of even more parents more robustly into our work. We were incredibly proud to introduce the charity's first Parent Involvement Forum this year, which you will see profiled on page 17.

Our partnership approach extends to the medical profession and we are proud funders of the National Neuroblastoma Nursing Group, a sub-group of the RCN/CCLG Children & Young People's Nursing Group. The group comprises cancer nurse specialists and research nurses involved in the care of children with neuroblastoma across the country and together they progress pieces of work over and above their day-to-day duties. This year the group supported us with input and advice on the development of our family support information which will be sent out to all treatment centres so that families hear more about our support service at the earliest possible opportunity.

We are so grateful for our corporate partners and individual supporters who have championed our charity this year, despite the ongoing challenges that have had an impact on us all. We will never take this support for granted and their continued passion and dedication to our shared cause has so often given us a much needed boost; from inspirational fundraising events to unexpected donations, these moments have meant so much to us all.

And so we look forward to the next year with anticipation, hope and continued determination to achieve even more on behalf of children with neuroblastoma and their families. As ever, my thanks go to our Board for their wisdom and guidance, our staff team for their incredible tenacity and resilience and to our volunteers and supporters for their time and generosity. Together, we are stronger.



**Gail Jackson**  
Chief Executive Officer



## About us

**We are a parent-led charity fighting for a future where no child dies of the childhood cancer neuroblastoma or suffers due to its treatment.**

Neuroblastoma is an aggressive and devastating cancer which affects the youngest of children; the majority of children affected by this disease are diagnosed before the age of 5.

Every year, approximately 100 children and their families receive a neuroblastoma diagnosis. Around half of these children are diagnosed with high-risk neuroblastoma. A diagnosis of high-risk neuroblastoma is devastating for families and presents complex challenges that will have an impact on every aspect of their lives. This has only been compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the most intensive, toxic and painful treatment, 50% of children with high-risk neuroblastoma will not survive. Those who do survive often suffer lifelong health problems because of the harsh treatments they receive as young children.

Though progress is being made in the treatment and understanding of neuroblastoma too few children diagnosed with high-risk neuroblastoma

are cured. We stand firm in our drive to bring even more innovative clinical trials to the UK for the benefit of all children diagnosed with neuroblastoma.

It is essential that promising developments in research are translated into effective treatment options for children fighting neuroblastoma now. Through this, we are determined to advance science and find a cure for future generations.

We help children and families affected by neuroblastoma by:

- Providing hope, information and support to families throughout their journeys
- Facilitating access to treatment in partnership with clinicians and researchers
- Advancing science through investment in clinical research
- Advocating for more effective and less toxic treatments

# Supporting and enabling clinical research in the UK

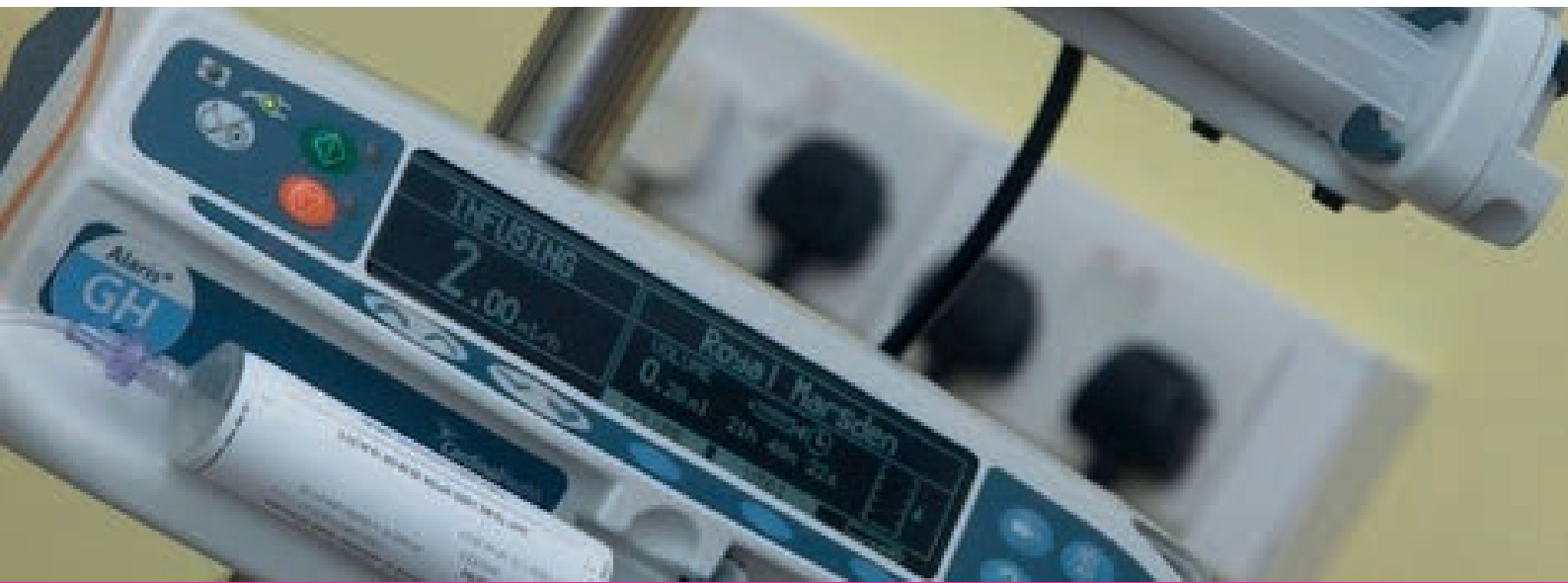
**We are committed to driving and investing in pioneering research, to advance the treatments that children can access to fight their disease.**

A key part of this is advancing the treatments that children can access to fight their disease, which is why we are committed to driving and investing in pioneering clinical research.

2020 has brought many challenges for Solving Kids' Cancer UK in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite these adversities we have maintained our support for the research community and even increased our research funding, with the grants we have awarded totalling over £700,000. Funding UK

research and international challenge grants that mandate transatlantic collaboration has ensured that the most promising new research is developed and progressed in both Europe and North America with a specific requirement for UK participation.

Our focus this year on strengthening partnerships and increased collaborative working meant an additional £2.1 million has been dedicated to research into neuroblastoma, helping children in the UK and beyond.



## OVER THE LAST YEAR, WE HAVE...

- Awarded four grants, committing over £700,000 to research
- Launched three groundbreaking projects which will help inform treatment for children with high-risk neuroblastoma globally
- Successfully passed the 2020 AMRC Audit – proving our commitment to fund research of the highest standard, in the fairest way
- Provided sponsorship for the biennial ANR conference, the leading international scientific research event for neuroblastoma

## Pursuing our mission in unprecedented times

The charity has seen many changes in the last year because of the pandemic, but our mission to help the children and families affected by neuroblastoma remains.

COVID-19 has been detrimental to the research landscape, with limits to funding and redeployment of staff away from clinics and onto the frontline. But despite this urgent health crisis, the fact remains that children with neuroblastoma simply do not have the time to wait, and so we are determined to accelerate the progress that is being made to find better treatments for those in desperate need.

This has meant not only increasing our funding into research in the past year, but also having close dialogue to support the researchers in our network by other means including timeline extensions, investigating delays and joining campaigns for extra government resource into medical research.

## Funding trials in the UK

Progress has continued since we announced the funding of UK sites for the SIOPEX High-Risk Neuroblastoma 2 Trial, in partnership with Neuroblastoma UK. The project will follow on from the first SIOPEX High-Risk trial which saw an improvement to standard care protocols across Europe.

This latest trial will answer more questions related to chemotherapy and radiotherapy to ensure that high-risk patients are receiving the best care possible for their disease. Enabling this trial to open in the UK was incredibly important to ensure that children here have access to the same standard of care and more targeted therapies as those across Europe, where the study is already progressing.

As lead funders of this initiative, with generous contributions from the Charlie Hook Appeal Trust Fund and the Corey Ashcroft Fund, we look forward to seeing sites open in 2021 for all newly diagnosed children.

## Giving more children a chance through international collaboration

Since the launch of our first International Neuroblastoma Research Initiative in 2018, we have been striving to expand our research impact by driving global collaboration.

This year, that culminated in the launch of two pioneering projects: the Transatlantic Integration

Targeting ALK in Neuroblastoma (TITAN) study, and the Solving Indolent Neuroblastoma study. TITAN was awarded a total of \$1.3 million from a group of seven parent-led research charities. It will see the introduction of a targeted therapy into frontline treatment for high-risk neuroblastoma, with the treatment of these children in Europe and North America being coordinated for the first time ever.

The Solving Indolent Neuroblastoma project being carried out by researchers across North America and Europe received £500,000 from a collective of charities brought together in Solving Kids' Cancer UK's second International Neuroblastoma Research Initiative. This landmark project is the first to focus solely on children with refractory disease, with hopes to give them a better chance at being treated in the most effective way, straight from diagnosis. We are incredibly proud to be the driving force behind both of these projects, which will set a precedent for our future international ambitions.

## Building strong foundations to achieve our goals

The uncertainty surrounding the pandemic has allowed time for the charity to reflect on what has been achieved so far in our research work, which has grown dramatically in recent years, and to look ahead at how we can sustain this rate of progression.

This was a prominent topic of conversation at the most recent meeting of our Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), where it was made clear that the charity has had a very meaningful impact on the landscape since the SAB's establishment in 2017 and that this must continue. As such we are now looking at how we can build the infrastructure that will allow the growth of our international portfolio, and advance future collaborations.

With this in mind, we were thrilled to successfully pass the 2020 Association of Medical Research Charities' audit of our grant award process, which oversees the £2.1 million portfolio we have managed this year. This confirmed that the foundations of our research work are robust, fair, and transparent, and have impact; we now look forward to building upon this in the coming year, bringing meaningful benefit to children with neuroblastoma.

Member of

**amrc**  
ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL RESEARCH CHARITIES



# VANESSA

**Vanessa was a gutsy, happy young woman from Troon in Scotland who lost her decade-long battle with cancer just days before her 18th birthday. She was first diagnosed with high-risk neuroblastoma in 2009 at 8 years old and, after completing standard frontline treatment, was in remission.**

Sadly, Vanessa relapsed in December 2011 and was given a less than 10% chance of survival. Her parents, Chris and Connie, immediately launched a fundraising appeal with Solving Kids' Cancer UK, known then as NCCA UK to raise funds needed to get Vanessa back into second remission.

Vanessa's campaign gathered national attention, in part thanks to her sister Olivia being a social media whizz and raised an incredible £800,000 which was used to fund Haploidentical Stem Cell transplant treatment in Tübingen, Germany, in August 2012. In January 2013, Vanessa's family were delighted to hear that she was once again in remission, and she was able to return to school and begin living a normal life again.

Just over a year later, the neuroblastoma returned. Due to the generosity of supporters from Vanessa's first appeal, significant funds had been raised which allowed the family to return to Germany for Vanessa to be enrolled onto an immunotherapy trial with Natural Killer(NK) cells to get her back into remission.

Devastatingly, whilst on a family holiday in America, Vanessa became symptomatic and new areas of disease were discovered.

The family were supported by Solving Kids' Cancer UK to identify other treatment options available for Vanessa. Vanessa was treated at her primary treating centre in Scotland which included radiotherapy and by the autumn of 2016, a slot was available for her to join the T Cell CAR trial at Great Ormond Street Hospital. As usual, Vanessa took everything in her stride and always with a smile. Vanessa sadly passed away on 1st June 2018, surrounded by her dear family.

## Vanessa's legacy

Accelerating research into high-risk neuroblastoma is something that the family is passionate about, and 70% of the remaining funds are contributing to our research strategy and have enabled us to fund our research programme this year which has included SIOPEN High-Risk Neuroblastoma 2 trial, Titan and Solving Indolent Neuroblastoma project. Vanessa's remarkable legacy has been, and will continue to be, an integral part of sustaining our research goals during a year which has been so challenging.

Vanessa's parents, Chris and Connie, want her legacy to help as many children as possible and support families in desperate relapse/refractory situations where treatment options are limited, and funds are needed more urgently to access treatment. 20% of funds raised in Vanessa's name have been restricted to our reserves fund, which supports families in these situations who are facing a shortfall in funds and where time is not on their side.

Funds have also gone towards general reserves to ensure that we have the resources to continue supporting families. The importance of having adequate reserves in place has been highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic and is crucial to continue the charity's operations on a secure and stable foundation, allowing us to concentrate our efforts towards helping children and families.



**“Connie and I would like to express a heartfelt thank you to everyone who so generously donated to give our precious Vanessa a chance at life. Vanessa loved life and would be delighted to know that some of the funds raised are now being used to help other kids with this terrible disease; giving them a fighting chance to love life too!”**

**Chris and Connie,**  
Vanessa's parents

# Reviewing and enhancing our support

**In this year of great challenge, our Family Support Service has continued to provide unrivalled scope and quality of support for families affected by neuroblastoma.**

The demand for this service grew exponentially over this last year. This has given families direct and one-to-one support as they negotiate complex challenges which have only been compounded by the pandemic.

The families within the neuroblastoma community are particularly vulnerable and have been deeply affected by the pandemic. We have experienced demand for our service increase by 258% throughout the year.

Lockdown led to entire families needing to shield and isolate themselves further to protect their vulnerable child, which had a disproportionate impact on their lives

and wellbeing. In response to the crisis we partnered with Joining Against Cancer in Kids (J-A-C-K) and introduced our Emergency Fund for all families affected by neuroblastoma (low, intermediate or high-risk), who were facing additional burdens due to the pandemic.

During this time we also bolstered our team and welcomed Dan Ingle to the Family Support Service, Dan has been a member of team SKC for several years and has been there for all families throughout this difficult year, advocating on their behalf and providing dedicated support.



**“Words cannot thank you enough for the help and support this has brought to our family. It was one fewer thing for us to have to think about. You will never know how much this fund meant to me and my husband and we will forever be grateful to your kind charity.”**

## **OVER THE LAST YEAR, WE HAVE...**

- Provided 304 pastoral grants to 57 families
- Provided 278 families with emotional and practical support, evidence-based and impartial information about neuroblastoma and its treatment
- Hosted our inaugural Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium online, reaching over 40 countries and welcoming over 700 participants
- Partnered with Joining Against Cancer in Kids (J-A-C-K) and introduced our Emergency Fund for families affected by neuroblastoma, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, awarding £68,500 and supporting 49 families

# ELLEN

**In January 2018, at just 2 years old, Ellen was diagnosed with high-risk neuroblastoma after several visits to the doctor with tummy pains.**

Within days of being diagnosed, Ellen started eight cycles of chemotherapy. She had a difficult time struggling with infections after every chemotherapy cycle, so spent most of her time in hospital on antibiotics.

Thankfully the disease responded to the chemotherapy, and Ellen had a 13-hour surgery to remove as much of her tumour as possible. After surgery Ellen also had to endure high-dose chemotherapy, stem cell transplants, radiotherapy and five cycles of immunotherapy.

During Ellen's treatment, her parents Claire and Patrick were supported by Solving Kids' Cancer UK to access the Bivalent Vaccine clinical trial at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York after deciding this would be the next treatment path for Ellen, in the hope the trial would reduce the chances of her cancer coming back. Despite involving the most intense treatment regime of all cancers, the disease returns in 40-50% of all children diagnosed with high-risk neuroblastoma. In 2019, the family raised nearly £550,000 exceeding their fundraising target.

In June 2020, Ellen and her family made the difficult decision to travel to New York during the pandemic to complete the vaccine trial. She remains free of disease and has since started Year 2.

Claire says, "Ellen is doing well now, thankfully, though we are now starting to deal with the long-term side effects that have been caused by the harsh treatment she went through. Even after all that she has been through, Ellen is such a happy little character. She gets such joy from the simple things that we can sometimes take for granted. She makes us laugh every single day. I feel such an overwhelming sense of gratitude that she is doing as well as she is and enjoying her life again. I am also acutely aware that some families have not been so fortunate."

Ellen's family has continued to support us, with Claire being appointed as a member of our Parent Involvement Forum in early 2021 (see page 17).

**"I will never forget the moment the radiologist said that she wasn't happy with the scan. That was the moment when our lives changed forever. We were devastated."**

**Claire**, Ellen's mum





# Accessing best available treatments and most promising clinical trials

**High-risk neuroblastoma is one of the most challenging childhood cancers to treat successfully and involves intense and aggressive multi-modal therapy.**

Advancing science in this area requires both collaborative and complimentary international efforts and sometimes this means that advances in science through clinical trials initially take place in different parts of the world, including the UK.

Solving Kids' Cancer UK supports a parent's right to choose to enrol their child on a recognised clinical trial abroad as well as in the UK. Our frontline team blends lived experience with professional experience, has an in-depth knowledge of the current clinical trial landscape and provides evidence-based and impartial

information to families; supporting them in their choice of treatment options for their child.

Over the course of the year, our Family Support Team assisted 16 children to travel abroad to access their family's chosen treatment despite the burden of travel restrictions. We have built a hugely supportive network of embassy officials, and we thank all those who have helped us advocate for children and their families in London, Barcelona and New York. We also thank our charity partner friends, St. George's Society, in New York.

## OVER THE LAST YEAR, WE HAVE...

- Supported families who raised £1.4 million to access their choice of treatment
- Facilitated access to treatment abroad for 16 children
- Organised 18 sets of flights and 18 accommodation stays
- Saved families collectively in excess of £114,000 by negotiating the costs of their treatments with cancer institutions
- In partnership with J-A-C-K, provided families accessing treatment outside of the UK with additional financial support towards associated travel/accommodation costs

# SERAPH

**In 2017, just before Christmas, Seraph fell out of his cot and broke his arm. After experiencing more pain over Christmas, his parents took him back to hospital where an exploratory ultrasound revealed a tumour in his abdomen, and further investigation showed cancer in his skeleton and bone marrow.**

Seraph's parents, Cass and Liam teamed up with Solving Kids' Cancer UK to fundraise an incredible £305,000 to access a clinical trial for Seraph, in the hope that it will prevent his cancer from returning in the future. After his end-of-treatment scans came back showing no evidence of disease, Seraph was accepted onto the Bivalent vaccine clinical trial in New York, and the family first travelled to America in June 2019.

Seraph's final trip was due in July 2020 in the midst of the pandemic. The family faced a very difficult decision as to whether to travel and if they felt it was safe to do.

Cass says, "We were advised to completely shield, and so we hadn't left the house for 10 weeks. Information was changing daily about visas, possible long quarantine times, and how the disease was transmitted. After breaking our isolation for a family trip to the US embassy to pitch our case to travel, and a nervous wait to see if we would be granted access to the States, we almost came unstuck over travel insurance. No one was insuring for COVID-19. All this and we were still unsure whether to travel. Eventually, we decided we'd work on the basis of what we knew. We knew Seraph had Neuroblastoma. We knew Neuroblastoma is a killer. We chose to throw everything at that. New York was a very different city when we got there, and we remained in our hotel room for the duration. Lucky for us, our final trip was sad but uneventful, and Seraph finished treatment in summer 2020".

Solving Kids' Cancer UK supported the family, along with 15 others during lockdown, in arranging travel and accommodation to ensure they felt safe and comfortable, both in the lead-up to their trip when travelling to London to pick up their visas and when travelling to and staying in New York.

Cass says, "Our lasting impression of the US portion of Seraph's treatment is of great fondness for a time when we got to be a family together, in a city which is now engraved upon our hearts. We thank Solving Kids' Cancer UK for helping us throughout this part in our journey. Hayley and Vicky, and Dan particularly (during one eventful flight) were our rocks."

"We feel extremely lucky that Seraph finished treatment when he did. I know how close to the edge we were during frontline. Thinking about the extra burden on families with recent diagnosis is a pain beyond. Whether getting through the long hospital days without extra support or attempting to fundraise during a time of scarcity, to the decision-making necessary in COVID times to navigate not one, but two deadly illnesses."

Seraph is now over two years with No Evidence of Disease. He has permanent hearing loss as a result of the harsh treatment but despite this is living his life to the full.



**"Gloriously noisy, messy, unidentifiably sticky, and wonderfully happy – the way any 6-year-old child deserves to be. There aren't words to describe the joy of this kind of normal."**

Cass and Liam, Seraph's parents



# Enhancing and inspiring public support

**2020 was a year like no other. Like many charities, the impact of COVID-19 was great and particularly impacted on our fundraising activities.**

We responded swiftly to our fundraising challenges, taking events online and developing a series of bespoke virtual challenge events. We have been humbled by the commitment and generosity of our fundraisers, donors and corporate partners, who have met the challenges of the pandemic to continue to raise funds and awareness of our cause.

We launched our Ambassador programme early in lockdown to mobilise our supporters and identify new ones. Ambassadors have been responsible for some extraordinary fundraising and awareness activities, including an online raffle of a painting by Mark Owen of Take That, and Clare Andrew's Butterfly Relay – which has gone on to inspire 2021's virtual relay.

We were thrilled to welcome one of the UK's most celebrated performers, Rob Brydon, as our first charity Patron. Rob's support will help us continue to raise awareness of neuroblastoma and highlight our ambition to make a real difference for the children and families we support.

Our fundraising and communications team merged under new leadership and we have welcomed Emily Hall as our Research and Digital Communications Officer. Emily has been working closely with our research team to ensure our research achievements are embedded throughout our communications.

**"I have had a personal connection to Solving Kids' Cancer UK for many years and their work is a cause that is very close to my heart. I am honoured to be the charity's first Patron."**

**Rob Brydon**



## OVER THE LAST YEAR, WE HAVE...

- Developed an ambitious new fundraising and communications strategy
- Welcomed over 700 people to our first virtual Christmas Carol Concert
- Secured GamesAid funding for a fifth year running
- Raised over £106,000 through our dedicated community and challenge event supporters
- 15,000+ butterflies created by #TeamButterflyKnitters for the 2021 Butterfly Relay
- Collaborated with other charities on fundraising initiatives, including the 20 for 20 initiative

# BEAUTY AND THE BEARD

Between October and December 2020, our partners Henley Shipping got creative and started their own original campaign: Beauty and the Beard.

The challenge was to grow a beard or grow your hair for three months. Their energy, creativity, passion and social media presence inspired so many different people across their community to get involved. They also continued to develop new and exciting challenges to raise both funds and awareness across this time. They held game nights, sold t-shirts, ran competitions and key team members even dyed their hair peroxide blond!

Over £12,000 was raised across the three months and we are incredibly grateful for this corporate support.



**“We are so proud to be supporting Solving Kids' Cancer UK once again. It is a truly special charity that does wonderful work.”** Josh Brown, Founder and Director of Henley Shipping

# WALKING 5KM A DAY

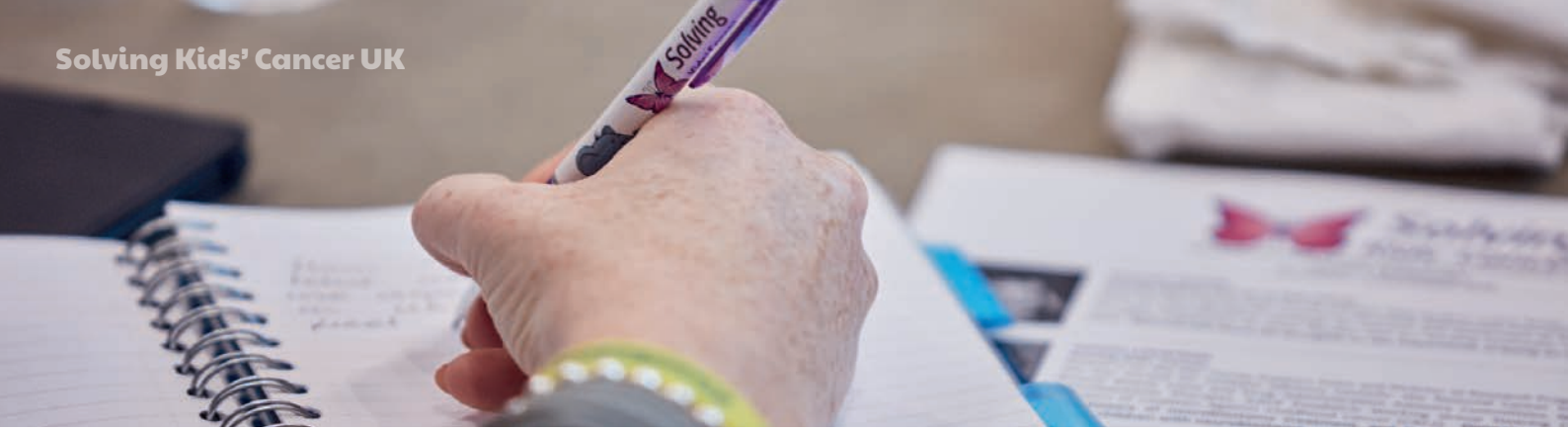
In January 2021, Hazel, aged 6, and Oscar, aged 8, from London, decided to raise funds for Solving Kids' Cancer UK.

They set themselves the fantastic challenge of walking 5km a day for five days. They updated their JustGiving page daily with details on where they walked and what they came across on their journeys. They ended up walking through both rain and shine, but the bad weather certainly didn't deter them! As a result of their dedication, Hazel and Oscar raised over £1,000 to support Solving Kids' Cancer UK.

They say: “We chose to do the walks for charity to remember our neighbour Noah and our brother Jasper. We chose to support Solving Kids' Cancer UK because we were impressed with what they have achieved to date and believed our fundraising could make a real difference. We really enjoyed the walks and exploring our local areas. The generous donations of our family and friends certainly helped motivate us when the challenge was tough or the weather wasn't great.”

**“We are proud of what we managed to achieve and very grateful for everyone's support.”** Hazel and Oscar





# Harnessing the combined power of the neuroblastoma community

**This year, collaboration and working in partnership has been key – harnessing the neuroblastoma community like never before to ensure we raise our collective voice and advocate for the children and families we serve.**

Following our parent survey we launched our Parent Information Forum, who meet regularly to provide insight and expertise to help inform our service.

We have worked closely with the National Neuroblastoma Nurses Group, a sub-group of the RCN/CCLG Children & Young People's Nursing Group (NNNG), and through this partnership received their support with the development of our family support information, to ensure that families hear about our support service at the earliest possible point.

We also took the ambitious step to bring our annual conference online, collaborating with partner organisations across continents to host the Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium.

We have kept parent-led advocacy at the heart of our research strategy, with members of our research

team holding 'patient expert' positions in national and international research groups, including the Innovative Therapies for Children with Cancer (ITCC) Consortium - Advocate Committee ACCELERATE Steering Committee, SIOOPEN Association, National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) Neuroblastoma Group, Coalition Against Childhood Cancer (CAC2) Board and New Approaches to Neuroblastoma Therapy (NANT) Advisory Council.

Our thanks to Solving Kids' Cancer US, Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Foundation, Neuroblastoma UK, J-A-C-K, Zoe4Life, Merryn Lacy Trust, The Charlie Hook Appeal Trust Fund, Alfie's Wishes, The Corey Ashcroft Fund, Oscar Knox Fund, Smiles for Stanley Fund, Band of Parents, Wade's Army and the Ronan Thompson Foundation, for their generosity as our funding partners in 2020-21.

## OVER THE LAST YEAR WE HAVE...

- Launched our Parent Involvement Forum
- Worked in partnership with other parent-led organisations and awarded research grants, totalling £2.1million
- Launched our Emergency Fund at the outset of the pandemic in partnership with J-A-C-K
- Hosted and collaborated on the inaugural Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium



# INTRODUCING OUR PARENT INVOLVEMENT FORUM

**We are a truly parent-led charity; parents with lived experience of neuroblastoma are represented across our Board of Trustees, our Leadership Team, operational team and volunteers. At every step we are a voice for children and their families. In every conversation we amplify their voice and ensure that children are at the heart of all we do.**

At the height of the pandemic, we set out to understand what neuroblastoma parents needed from our charity, and we surveyed the wider neuroblastoma parent community. Insights from this survey were invaluable and directly informed our service development, the first step of which was to launch our Parent Involvement Forum in January 2021.

The forum is made up of parents who have all been supported by Solving Kids' Cancer UK at different stages through their child's neuroblastoma journey. They give their time voluntarily, providing a wealth of experience and insight which directly informs our service development and communications to ensure we have the greatest possible impact.

We continue to be inspired by their desire to support other families going through similar experiences and are so grateful for their generosity of spirit and dedication.

**"I wanted to get involved as the help we received from Solving Kids' Cancer UK when Ellen was going through treatment was invaluable to us. It feels really important to me to now try to give something back. Hopefully, my input can help other families in the future who are going through the same traumatic experience as we did."**

**Claire**, Ellen's mum

**"Unfortunately, we're all members of an exclusive club that none of us wanted to join. We would do anything to make it any bit easier for the future members because we greatly appreciate what parents and all others have done in the past to improve our journeys"**

**Garrett**, Lauren's dad



- 1 Anna Austin (to April 2021)
- 2 Naomi Bentham
- 3 Leeanne Brennan
- 4 Claire Donnelly
- 5 Kate Dixon
- 6 Garrett Fitzgerald
- 7 Stewart Leaver
- 8 Naomi Shefford-Thomas
- 9 Carrie Wright (from June 2021)

# Strengthening governance

**During the last year, we welcomed Gail Jackson as Chief Executive Officer, who joined at the peak of the pandemic in April 2020. Gail, with the support of our dedicated Board of Trustees, has guided the charity through the uncertainties of the pandemic.**

We also recruited Alexandra Lane as a Trustee, welcoming her in September 2020. Alex is a lawyer specialising in health care regulatory work. Her eldest son, Archie, was diagnosed with Stage 4 high-risk neuroblastoma when he was just 2 years old. Despite intensive treatment, Archie sadly passed away in 2018.

The Board of Trustees, led by our Chair Nick Bird, have devoted so much of their time and energy to guiding the work of Solving Kids' Cancer UK this year, enabling us to reach more families than ever before, develop our services and extend our commitment to research.



**"I hope that by collectively driving forward awareness, funding and research we can and will make a real difference in the future"** Alexandra, Trustee

## OVER THE LAST YEAR, WE HAVE...

- Conducted a Board of Trustees skills audit and identified areas of recruitment
- Strengthened our risk register and added an addendum covering COVID-19
- Strengthened our recruitment and induction process for both Trustees and employees
- Begun implementation of a new CRM system to improve donor journey, communications and impact measurement

# CELEBRATING IN HOPE AND THANKS

**In December, with the wonderful support of Data Protection World Forums, many generous performers and Stray Cat Productions, we welcomed over 700 people to our first virtual Christmas Carol Concert, celebrating together in hope and thanks.**

We chose to use the evening to celebrate the work of the NHS, particularly those who had worked tirelessly to support the neuroblastoma community throughout the pandemic. As part of this, families we support were invited to nominate special people for our Solving Kids' Cancer UK NHS Hero Award. Five awards were given out on the night to extraordinary doctors, nurses, and hospital wards.

The event was presented live by our Trustee Bronwyn Ellis and featured a range of wonderful acts. Performers kindly gave their time to perform exclusively, including several household names.

We were thrilled to feature the London Oratory School Chamber Choir, singer Astræa, harpist Valeria Kurbatova, opera singer and 'Go Compare' star Wynne Evans, UK number one singer Newton Faulkner, and duo Tomos Lewis and Maddie Jones.

We were also privileged to welcome comedians Josh Widdicombe and Matt Richardson for warm and humorous festive messages. There were several delightful readings, too, including poems and messages from children the charity has supported, and Reverend Anne Doerr from the Royal Marsden led a blessing.

Attendees were invited to join us for virtual festive drinks before and after the concert. This was a lovely opportunity to mingle with friends, family, and colleagues at a time when we could not do so in person.

The event raised over £21,000 for the charity and, after what had been a very challenging year, the concert delivered an evening of joy, hope and some much-needed festive spirit.



**“Congratulations on the Carol Concert, I was so moved by the personal stories and the NHS hero awards. It was wonderful to enjoy some festive spirit during this time when we’re not able to celebrate together in person”**

**Ioan**, Christmas Carol Concert attendee

Our thanks to everyone who helped make this event so special and the children who shared messages and readings on the night: Anya, Bibi, Daya, Ellen, Lucy, Eva, Lily-Mae, Oliver and Zakky.



# Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium 2020



**The cancellation of our annual in-person parent conference in 2020 was a very difficult but unavoidable decision for us in the face of the pandemic. However, this challenge provided the opportunity to think globally, extend our ambition and work with international partners to develop the virtual Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium, the first of its kind for the global neuroblastoma community.**

On 6th and 7th November 2020, the inaugural Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium brought together families affected by neuroblastoma from around the world with those who work to treat, help and support them.

Presentations from 36 experts in Australia, North America, and Europe shared the latest information on biology, treatment, research, late effects and psychosocial challenges surrounding a childhood cancer diagnosis.

Over 700 parents, medical professionals, charity leaders, and industry representatives from 46 countries were able to view live presentations and panel sessions, and ask questions.

International experts delivered sessions providing credible and reliable information on treatment and clinical trials, including current treatment strategies in Europe, North America and Australia, and some of the impacts of a childhood cancer diagnosis on the whole family.

We collaborated with Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Foundation and Solving Kids' Cancer (US), two charities with whom we have a history of collaboration, to deliver this worldwide event - the first of its kind for the international neuroblastoma community.

Families worldwide now have free access to information through 25 hours of recorded sessions which can all be viewed at <https://bit.ly/NPGS-2020>.

We are grateful to GRC World Forums and Y-mAbs Therapeutics for their support to help make this wonderful and inclusive event possible.

**"It has been a real pleasure and privilege to discuss with friends and colleagues the most recent data and approaches to therapies for children with neuroblastoma."** Franco

**Locatelli**, Director of Department of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology, IRCCS Ospedale Pediatrico Bambino Gesù

**"This event highlighted how well connected the oncology world is and that we are fortunate to have so many amazing experts around the globe searching for better treatments/cures for this devastating disease."** Adam, Australia

**"An absolutely fantastic event, very informative and excellently run. As a family member of someone with neuroblastoma, it was great to hear of the newer treatment options and hear survivor stories."** Rosie, UK

**"What a phenomenal resource for families to connect, share information, and form community! Thank you for making this possible for families all over the world!"** Jessica, USA



Children's Neuroblastoma  
Cancer Foundation



Online Event  
6th & 7th November 2020  
Join the conversation: #NPGS2020



**Yael Mossé, MD**

Director of the Neuroblastoma Development Therapeutics Program, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

*Targeting ALK - Discovery to Frontline Treatment*

Moderated by Gavin Lindberg, Co-Founder & President, The EVAN Foundation

Online Event  
6th & 7th November 2020  
Join the conversation: #NPGS2020



**Neuroblastoma Basics: Ask the Experts**

Moderated by Leona Knox, Head of Research, SKC UK, NB Parent



**Ami Desai, MD**

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, University of Chicago/Comer Children's Hospital



**Cormac Owens, MD**

Consultant Paediatric Oncologist, Children's Health Ireland at Crumlin



**Steven DuBois, MD MS**

Director, Experimental Therapeutics, Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center



**Thorsten Simon, MD, PhD**

Clinical Director of the Department for Pediatric Oncology and Hematology, Children's Hospital of the University of Cologne

Online Event  
6th & 7th November 2020  
Join the conversation: #NPGS2020



**Daniel Morgenstern, MD BChir PhD**

Director, New Agent and Innovative Therapy Program (NAIT), The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto

*Opening Ceremony*

Online Event  
6th & 7th November 2020  
Join the conversation: #NPGS2020



**Jaume Mora, MD PhD**

Scientific Director, Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona

*Naxitamab (hu3F8) Studies*

Moderated by Gregory Sizikov, NB Parent

Online Event  
6th & 7th November 2020  
Join the conversation: #NPGS2020



**Juliet Gray, MD, MA, MB BS, PhD**

Clinical Lead Paediatric Oncology & Haematology, University Hospital Southampton

*MiNivAn: MIBG and Antibody Combination Therapy*

Moderated by Nick Bird, Chair of Trustees, SKC UK

Online Event  
6th & 7th November 2020  
Join the conversation: #NPGS2020



**Cell Therapies in Neuroblastoma**

Moderated by Nick Bird, Chair of Trustees, SKC UK



**Navin Pinto, MD**

Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Washington/Seattle Children's Hospital



**Crystal Mackall, MD**

Ernest and Amelia Gallo Family Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, Stanford Medicine



**Franco Locatelli, MD, PhD**

Full Professor of Pediatrics & Director of Department of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology, Sapienza University of Rome & IRCCS Ospedale Pediatrico Bambino Gesù



**Andras Heczey, MD**

Director, Cancer and Hematology Center, Texas Children's Hospital



**40+ COUNTRIES REPRESENTED**



**30+ SPEAKERS PRESENTING ONLINE**



**30+ SESSIONS DURING THE SYMPOSIUM**



**25 HOURS OF RECORDED CONTENT TO VIEW**

# Achievements and performance

The last year has presented great challenges to both our charity and the children and families we serve. Throughout this challenge we have remained resolute and focused on the delivery of our six key strategic objectives.

## 1 Strengthen governance in order to successfully deliver our charity's mission

- Recruited a Secretary to the Board of Trustees to strengthen and manage board administrative processes
- Revised our core agreements to ensure consistency and improve the clarity of information for families
- Resourced and enabled our organisation to take an agile approach to service delivery at the onset of the pandemic
- Undertook a Trustees' skills audit, recruited to our board and carried out succession processes and planning
- Begun the implementation of a new CRM system in 2020/21 to improve donor journey, communications and impact measurement
- Strengthened our risk register and added an addendum covering COVID-19
- Begun the implementation of a new finance system
- Streamlined our costs to ensure we are a lean and agile organisation, responsive to the needs of our community

## 2 Engage and inspire long-term public support in the charity and in the fight against neuroblastoma

- Merged our fundraising and communications team under new leadership
- Undertook a review of our fundraising and communications activities, resulting in a new and ambitious fundraising and communications strategy
- Pivoted our fundraising efforts and adapted our activities to fit within the new online and virtual environment
- Recruited to the new role of Research and Digital Communications Officer
- Welcomed over 700 people to our first virtual Christmas Carol Concert, raising over £21,000
- Secured GamesAid funding for a fifth year running
- Launched our Ambassador programme to raise awareness and vital funds for our cause
- Raised over £106,000 through our dedicated community and challenge event supporters
- Partnered with other rare cancer charities on fundraising activities
- Welcomed our first charity patron – Rob Brydon

## 3 Review and enhance the charity's support offerings

- Provided 278 families with emotional and practical support, evidence-based and impartial information about neuroblastoma and its treatment, an increase of 258% compared to the previous year
- Partnered with Joining Against Cancer in Kids (J-A-C-K) and introduced our Emergency Fund for families affected by neuroblastoma, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, awarding £68,500 and supporting 49 families
- Delivered our inaugural Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium, reaching over 700 participants across 46 countries
- Provided 304 pastoral grants to 57 families totaling £115,265
- Provided internal training at Eusa Pharma's conference on the high-risk neuroblastoma parent pathway
- Enhanced our own understanding of the global clinical trial landscape. Through active participation in specific neuroblastoma clinical trials update meetings we've ensured the Family Support Service best meets the ongoing needs of families

## 4 Facilitate access to the best available treatments and most promising clinical trials

- Supported families who raised £1.4 million to access treatment and trials not currently available on the NHS
- Facilitated access to treatment abroad for 16 children
- Organised 18 sets of flights and 18 accommodation stays
- Saved families collectively in excess of £114,000 by negotiating the costs of their treatments with cancer institutions
- In partnership with J-A-C-K, provided families accessing treatment that is outside of the UK with additional financial support toward associated travel/accommodation costs
- Advocated for children and families, working with international embassies to enable access to treatment during the global lockdown
- Lobbied institutions on behalf of children and families where clinical trials were put on hold as a result of the pandemic

## 5 Support and enable best in class clinical research, accessible in the UK

- Awarded four grants, committing over £700,000 to research
- Launched three groundbreaking projects that will help inform treatment for children with high-risk neuroblastoma globally:
  - A \$1.3 million project spanning across Europe and North America which will see a targeted therapy introduced into frontline treatment for children with high-risk neuroblastoma
  - Opening the UK sites for a major European trial which will evaluate the current standard care for high-risk neuroblastoma and look to improve its effectiveness
  - A transatlantic collaborative translational study which will develop tools to detect chemo-resistant neuroblastoma at diagnosis
- Passed the first audit of our peer review process by the Association of Medical Research Charities, proving our robust approach to supporting and funding research of the highest standard
- Kept parent-led advocacy at the heart of our research strategy, with members of our research team holding 'patient expert' positions in national and international research groups

## 6 Harness the combined power and resources of the neuroblastoma community to most effectively advocate for, and work in support of, children and their families

- Partnered with 11 other charities, nationally and internationally, to help deliver more and better treatment options for children with neuroblastoma
- Surveyed our community and launched our Parent Involvement Forum
- Worked in partnership with other parent-led organisations and awarded research grants, totalling £2.1 million
- Worked closely with NNNG to raise awareness of our family support service in treatment centres
- Worked in collaboration with Solving Kids' Cancer US and Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Foundation to host the first ever Neuroblastoma Global Parent Symposium

# Future plans

**Like many charities, the ongoing challenges presented by the pandemic will have an impact on our work and the community we serve for years to come. The children and families we support are particularly vulnerable and face additional challenges in the post-COVID-19 world.**

We will remain focused on developing our services to meet the needs of our community by collaborating and working in partnership both nationally and internationally for the benefit of all those affected by neuroblastoma.

We will implement our new fundraising strategy to support our growth, service development and ambition to drive and fund innovative research for

the benefit of children now and in the future, reach more families and further develop our support service.

We will take the first steps in reviewing our six-point strategic plan to inform our priorities for the future and will continue in our unwavering vision for a future where no child dies of neuroblastoma or suffers due to its treatment.

## Over the next year we will:

- Retain our status as a principal funder of neuroblastoma clinical trials in the UK and continue to pursue our research strategy to deliver more effective and less toxic treatment options for children with neuroblastoma in the UK and beyond
- Review our 2017-2022 six-point strategic plan, build on success and create a blueprint for our growth, sustainability and stability into the future
- Continue to build and enhance relationships and work in partnership with the global neuroblastoma family, clinical and research communities to support our vision, and work to raise our collective voice to ensure we continue to advocate passionately and effectively for children and families affected by neuroblastoma
- Continue to develop and recruit to our board in line with our strategic planning and ensure effective succession planning is in place
- Build on the success of the inaugural Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium by working with our international partners and the neuroblastoma clinical community to host our second virtual global event for the benefit of families and all those who support them
- Launch our first bespoke virtual and inclusive fundraising and awareness-raising challenge event – the Butterfly Relay
- Implement our new ambitious fundraising strategy, informed by our stakeholders and responsive to the current landscape, to ensure our long-term sustainability and growth
- Continue to navigate beyond the uncertainty presented by the pandemic, and despite the challenges, focus on strengthening our organisational effectiveness by progressing our capital investment as identified in our strategic plan. We will protect and prioritise these investments and implement our new CRM and Finance database systems to ensure we remain focused on maximising the long-term charitable benefit we provide to children and families
- Continue to develop our support service and launch our regional support hubs and peer-to-peer support network across the UK. Consider ways we can support families further, which may include those facing bereavement and those navigating the complexities of parenting children who face psychosocial and physical challenges following years of intensive treatment and address the needs of young people in survivorship
- Continue to develop our education, advocacy and support offer through further developing our relationships with UK Principal Treatment Centres and other organisations providing direct and frontline services to families affected by neuroblastoma



# Structure, governance and management

## Governing document

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The Charity is controlled by its governing document, the Articles of Association, and constitutes an incorporated registered charity. The Charity was incorporated on 30 March 2010 at Companies House, was entered in the Register of Charities on 20 April 2010 and is administered by the Trustees.

At their discretion, the Trustees may spend all or part of the capital of the Charity in furthering its Objects, in the following ways:

- i To raise funds. The Trustees must not undertake any substantial permanent trading activity and must comply with any relevant statutory regulations
- ii To buy, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire property and to maintain and equip it for use
- iii To sell, lease or otherwise dispose of all or any part of property belonging to the charity
- iv To borrow money and to charge the whole or any part of the property belonging to the Charity as security for repayment of the money borrowed

## Objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives ('Objects') are specifically restricted to the following:

- To advance the understanding and treatment of cancer in children through the greater awareness, provision of equipment, access to treatment protocols in hospitals and medical centres and clinical research aimed at improved diagnosis and treatment anywhere in the world
- To advance the education, relieve the sickness and the poverty of persons living anywhere in the world through the provision of equipment, financial assistance and by any other charitable means that the directors in their absolute discretion think fit

## Public benefit

The Trustees give due regard to the public benefit provided by the Charity in relation to its charitable purpose as set out by the Objects and due consideration to the relevant guidance issued by the Charity Commission. The Trustees will continue to ensure that the principal activities of the Charity are to provide public benefit.

To meet the charity's objects, Solving Kid's Cancer UK currently provides a Family Support Service, a unique service dedicated to the neuroblastoma parent community, providing emotional and practical support to families affected by neuroblastoma, from point of diagnosis. The charity uses its knowledge, influence and reputation as passionate advocates to help shape, drive and fund research, identifying unmet needs and challenging experts to work with it to accelerate research and treatment options for children with neuroblastoma. It also supports parents right to choose to enrol their child on a recognised clinical trial abroad as well as in the UK.

## Board of Trustees

Solving Kids' Cancer UK is governed by the Board of Trustees, chaired by Nick Bird. The trustees determine the Charity's strategic direction and oversee progress against objectives. It is responsible for governance and for upholding the Charity's values. The Charity must have at least two Trustees. The day-to-day running of the Charity is the responsibility of the Chief Executive.

The Board of Trustees supports the principles of good governance set out in the new Charity Governance Code (see [www.charitygovernancecode.org](http://www.charitygovernancecode.org)) and also the continuous improvement model which the Code promotes.

The Board of Trustees receives periodic technical briefings on neuroblastoma research, ensuring there is appropriate knowledge and expertise held internally within the Board. It welcomes the Chair of Solving Kids' Cancer UK's Scientific Advisory Board to one of their formal Board Meetings as recommended by AMRC, and attends the annual neuroblastoma symposium and other relevant conferences/meetings.

The Board of Trustees has formal board meetings six times during the year. Trustees initially commit to a

three-year term and may hold office for a maximum of three, three yearly terms before being required to reapply to join. Trustees who have undertaken their first three-year term of office could elect to extend their trusteeship by an additional one, two or three years. Trustees may resign from office by serving one month's written notice to the other trustees. In accordance with the Charity's Articles of Association, Trustees must undertake to attend meetings regularly and any Trustee failing to do so may be duly removed from their position.

The quorum necessary for the transaction of Trustee business at an ordinary meeting is two Trustees. The Trustees agree that the nominated Chair has the casting vote for decisions where there is equal weighting.

Trustees may be appointed by the members by an ordinary resolution or by the directors by a resolution of the directors.

The Board appoints new Trustees based upon their empathy with the Objects of the Charity, skills and experience to help provide the appropriate level of governance and oversight for the Charity to be effective, coupled with their ability to commit the necessary time for Board meetings and other key events, to include the annual Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium.

During the year the Board conducted a Board Skills Audit to review its current composition, identify any skills gaps and consider arrangements for succession planning and has used this to build the future training and development plans. It also reviewed the Charity's operation and governance against the governance code and, as a result, implemented a project to consider our equality, diversity and inclusion policy and practice. It also appointed a Board safeguarding lead and ensured all staff and Board members undertook safeguarding training.

One new Trustee, Alexandra Lane, joined the Board in September 2020 and no Trustees stepped down during this period. A further new Trustee, Dr Áine McCarthy joined the Board in July 2021.

Trustee induction procedures include completing relevant training and working with staff and existing Trustees to understand the organisation and develop internal relationships, to include one-to-one meetings with the CEO, Chair of the Board, Trustees and members of the Leadership Team. The induction also covers governance processes, strategic planning and finance, so that new Trustees are equipped with relevant knowledge about the organisation and its priorities. New Trustees are provided with a Role Description and Person Specification and Board Code of Conduct.

## Scientific Advisory Board

Solving Kids' Cancer UK's Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) is an independent body which is responsible for providing expert guidance and support to help us achieve our research goals, as well as overseeing our robust, AMRC-accredited grant award process. Their advice and recommendations are presented to the Board of Trustees via our research team.

The contribution of the SAB has been more valuable than ever in such a challenging year for the research community. Their work in governing our grant award process so rigorously and monitoring the progress of the Charity's ongoing projects contributed to our success in passing the 2020 AMRC Audit, our first since joining the association in 2018. They have also taken the opportunity to reflect on the accolades made since the SAB was established in 2017, and to think strategically about the future of our research endeavours as the landscape evolves in the wake of the pandemic. Professor Andy Pearson, Chair of the SAB was able to open these important conversations directly with the Board of Trustees at two of their meetings this year.

In 2020, to accommodate the very high degree of collaboration within the neuroblastoma research community in respect of our international challenge grants, a number of additional members of the scientific community kindly agreed to participate in two of our SAB meetings. This enabled the SAB to continue to function effectively and in accordance with its published conflict of interest policies.

The Trustees would like to extend their wholehearted gratitude to all members who participated in our SAB meetings over the past year, for their outstanding commitment to push the Charity's research goals forward, for the benefit of children with neuroblastoma in the UK and internationally. A special thanks goes to Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board, Professor Andy Pearson, for providing his continued dedication and expertise on the neuroblastoma landscape and his incredible enthusiasm and support for the work of Solving Kids' Cancer UK.

## Staff remuneration

All salaries, including that of the Chief Executive, are based upon an assessment of the employment market, the performance of each member of staff, the skill levels required, the size and financial performance of the charity and the salary levels required to obtain the services of the best staff. Oversight of remuneration is a Board-reserved authority.

## Diversity

Solving Kids' Cancer UK is very strongly committed to diversity in terms of equality gender, race, sexual orientation, religious beliefs and socio-economic status. Solving Kids' Cancer UK recognises its desire and responsibility to ensure our services are open and inclusive and meet the needs of all in society.

The Board, as part of its reviews and continuous improvement has implemented a project to further develop our equality, diversity and inclusive practices. Solving Kids' Cancer UK is committed to developing its staff and board recruitment and retention policies and processes to ensure we reflect the communities we serve and we support staff and volunteers to uphold equity in all of its activities. The Charity consistently interacts with a diverse cross-section of society and has mechanisms in place to ensure that respect and dignity are maintained.

## Volunteers

The Trustees are extremely grateful for the considerable contribution made by the Charity's volunteers and fundraisers in support of children with high-risk neuroblastoma and who provide their valuable time to speak, share their work and provide expert information to our families as part of our Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium, as well as those that assist the office team with the administration necessary to achieve its aims and objectives. During the year, the charity was supported by a large number of volunteers including six Trustees, seven SAB members, eight Parent Involvement Forum members and over 36 expert speakers and facilitators at our Global Symposium.

## Our legal and administrative details

### Registered charity name

Solving Kids' Cancer UK Ltd  
(from 14th September 2020)

*Previously: Solving Kids' Cancer Europe*

### Charity registration number

1135601 (England and Wales)  
SC045094 (Scotland)

### Company registration number

07208648

### Registered office

Coram Campus  
41 Brunswick Square  
London WC1N 1AZ  
(from 11th September)

## Trustees

The Trustees who served the Company during the period were as follows:

- Nicholas Bird (Chair)
- David Coulon (Treasurer)
- Bronwyn Ellis
- Alexandra Lane (from 14th September 2020)
- Joseph Tabone
- Matthew G White

Dr Áine McCarthy joined the Board on 20th July 2021.

## Company Secretary

Gemma Wadsley

## Chief Executive

Gail Jackson (from 14th April 2020)

## Leadership Team

- Anne Denman (Head of Fundraising and Communications from 26th May 2020)
- Claire Hislop (Head of Operations)
- Vicky Inglis (Head of Family Support)
- Leona Knox (Head of Research)
- Tom Moore (Maternity cover - Head of Operations to 27th August 2020)
- Gemma Wadsley (Head of Strategic Finance)

## Auditors

Shipleys LLP  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor  
10 Orange Street  
Haymarket  
London WC2H 7DQ

## Bankers

National Westminster Bank  
Church Road Branch  
London NW4 4DS

## Investment managers

CCLA Investment Management Limited  
Senator House  
85 Queen Victoria Street  
London EC4V 4ET

## Solicitors

Withers  
16 Old Bailey  
London EC4M 7EG

# Financial review

## Overview

It has been a challenging year for all charities financially in the face of a global pandemic with reductions to voluntary donations and increased need for and complexity of our services. We reacted quickly and worked hard to reduce our operational expenditure and amend our fundraising approach. This coupled with our reserves position has meant we have been able to continue providing all our services this year. We also provided an emergency grant in partnership with Joining Against Cancer in Kids (J-A-C-K) to support neuroblastoma families and believe we remain financially stable as we head into what is likely to be another challenging year.

## Income

Our total income for the year was £2,297,271 (2020: £3,536,026). This is made up of £703,597 of unrestricted funds (2020: £750,437), £1,503,456 of designated funds (2020: £2,518,982) and £90,218 restricted funds (2020: £266,607).

Our unrestricted income is made up of voluntary and investment income which supports all of our Charity's internal activities including our family support provision – offering pastoral care to support families, and providing evidence-based, impartial information to support parents in their decision-making in respect of treatment options for their child and to access treatments and clinical trials if they are not available in the UK, our internal research team and infrastructure, all our fundraising activities and our operational running and governance. The majority of the remainder of our income relates to designated family funds which the Board has designated in the name of a child to support potential treatment options for that individual child.

Total income has reduced by £1,238,755 for the year which is largely due to the reduction in families seeking to access treatment this year. Our unrestricted income has also been impacted by the fact that we were unable to run any face-to-face challenge events or fundraisers within the year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, although we mitigated this through new fundraising streams and virtual events.

## Expenditure

Expenditure decreased slightly for the year at £2,309,712 (2020: £2,557,610). The make up of

our expenditure shifted this year with lower levels of children's treatment costs in line with the lower levels of families being supported at £728,676 (2020: £1,138,868) and an increase in research funding of trials in partnership, in line with our strategy at £704,181 (2020: £465,071). We have also increased our Pastoral grants to families this year at £115,265 (2020: £11,873). As noted we have worked hard to reduce our operational costs including reducing our rental costs and needing to move our Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium online. Support costs have reduced by 5% with property costs down 36% for the year.

## Investments

Given the nature of the organisation, supporting very young children and their families, our investment objectives are primarily to invest in an ethically sound manner in order to protect the value of the Charity's assets against inflation, and provide modest returns through a combination of income distribution and capital growth. In addition to being mindful of the nature of investments made on behalf of the Charity, the Trustees' appetite for risk is also influenced by the significant amount of funds that are designated for future purposes. The COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund aims to provide a long-term gross return of 5% per annum net of inflation. Within this, the fund aims to deliver a consistent annual distribution of income, and operate with a level of volatility (risk) that is no greater than 75% of the volatility of the UK equity market.

Following an extremely volatile investment year, particularly in relation to Brexit and the COVID-19 pandemic we are accounting for an investment gain of £571,632 (2020: £88,097 loss). Investment income however performed well at £135,042 for the year against £123,165 in the prior year. Since we started investing in the COIF Fund, our capital has increased by £914,945 and returned £641,552 thereby performing as per the Trustee's expectations.

## Reserves policy

The Trustees have adopted a reserves policy which they consider appropriate to ensure the continued ability of the Charity to meet its objectives.

General funds are set aside to meet research, education, family support and administration costs. At the financial year-end general funds were £778,001 (2020: £623,878).

General free reserves (undesignated funds excluding fixed assets) were £764,959 and represent 11 months undesignated expenditure (based upon budget for the year April 2021 – March 2022).

Free reserves are calculated as follows:

	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>
Total funds of the Charity	10,590,757
Less: Restricted funds	(1,471,141)
Less: Designated funds	(8,341,615)
Less: Fixed assets held for Charity use	(13,042)
	<b>£764,959</b>

The reserves policy currently states that six to nine months of essential running costs should be covered in order to meet its obligations in the short term (£350,000–£520,000). This is based on an assessment of the organisational risk approach and funding model.

Whilst we are currently above our reserves target at 11 months, Trustees are mindful of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and therefore are comfortable with the position at the year end. Whilst we are currently above our reserves target at 11 months trustees are mindful of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and therefore believe that the year-end free reserve balance is appropriate in the current circumstances.

We are currently reviewing our five-year strategy and as such will undertake a review of our reserves policy alongside the strategic implementation plan which will either articulate how we will reduce our reserves back in line with the target range or if required to support the new strategy will amend the policy as appropriate.

Designated funds are set aside for the treatment of specific children with neuroblastoma, and are not available for the general running of the Charity or any projects which do not directly relate to the treatment of that child. At the financial year-end, the Charity held designated reserves of £8,341,615 (2020: £7,828,822). In the event of a child's death, the funds will be released from the child's designated funds to support our wider charitable objectives. Following the end of a successful course of treatment, and a child exhibiting No Evidence of Disease (NED), funds will remain designated for a period of five years so that they are available for that child should they suffer a relapse and require further treatment, a situation which is common for neuroblastoma patients. This policy resulted in £1,402,616 (2020: nil) transferring from designated children's funds within the year

with 70% transferred to the designated Solving Kids' Cancer Research Fund, 20% to the designated Solving Kids' Cancer Children's Reserve Fund and 10% to undesignated reserves.

Restricted reserves are funds which can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity, and arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. At the financial year-end, the Charity held restricted reserves of £1,471,141 (2020: £1,578,866), of which £1,223,288 (2020: £1,242,985) arose from funds being held on behalf of families who were previously supported by Families Against Neuroblastoma.

Supporters of the Charity are asked to note that, although the Charity appears to hold significant reserves, 76% of these funds are designated for specific children should they require treatment.

## Impact of COVID-19

We continue to manage the ongoing risk of COVID-19 as part of our overall risk management. Controls in place include regular income and expenditure reforecasts and updates to the Board. We continue to support families to travel safely and within the COVID-19 rules, we have provided grants to families who have been shielding and we have worked with our research partners as they have had to adapt. Financially we have reduced our overheads by reducing our office space and rental costs, we held a virtual symposium rather than an in person event and held a very successful virtual Carol Concert. Whilst our income streams were affected to varying degrees we have been able to adapt and find some new sources of income to continue to be able to provide our services. Our staff have worked remotely throughout the year.

## Risk management

The Charity's Trustees have considered the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and have reviewed those risks and established systems and procedures to manage those risks. The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and to provide reassurance that:

- its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition;
- proper records are maintained and financial information used within the Charity or for publication is reliable and reviewed at every Trustee meeting; and

- the Charity complies with relevant laws and regulations.

The risk register was fully redesigned within the year and is a live document which is reviewed in detail every six months by the Board and Leadership Team.

Risk categories include:

### Governance

Covers risk of non-delivery of strategy, Board skills and capabilities, and effective decision-making and reporting.

Controls in place to manage these risks include a clear strategy underpinned by annual plans, a balanced and involved Board who have clear terms of reference and who consider their effectiveness and undertake training as appropriate. The Board request and receive regular reporting from executive management.

### People

Covers risk of loss of key staff and inadequate structure.

Controls in place to manage these risks include strong oversight by CEO and senior managers, clear roles and responsibilities and strong HR processes. As staff numbers are small this is a key risk which is closely monitored.

### Finance

Covers all financial risks around effectiveness of our business model, level of reserves, management of investments and effective insurance.

Controls in place to manage these risks include annual budgeting and forecasting processes with regular reporting of our financial position to Trustees. We have a clear reserves policy and hold general reserves to manage any changes in cash flow. We have an investment policy and investment managers who report on performance regularly.

### Compliance

Covers all risks relating to non-compliance of required regulations including data protection, health and safety, employment and financial.

Controls in place to manage these risks include effective policies, staff training and awareness and effective advisors.

### Operational, legal and physical

Covers risk of not being able to meet demands for family support and quality of support provided, risk of lack of funds due to expenditure exceeding income, health and safety risks and other operational risks including employment risks and disaster recovery.

Controls in place to manage these risks include ensuring the team have appropriate support to delivery in their roles and we are continuously considering current and future demand. Budgets and reserves are effectively managed to ensure funding is maintained. We have policies in place which are well understood and adhered to around health and safety, disaster recovery, employment policies and other areas of compliance.

### Environmental/external factors

Covers reputational risk and relevant external risks such as economic conditions and Brexit.

Controls in place to manage these risks include effective communications policies and resource and ongoing monitoring of relevant external plans with action plans as required.

### COVID-19

We are currently also running a COVID-19 specific risk register which reflects the key risks that COVID-19 presents and the relevant mitigations. These include Financial risks, Infrastructure and Staff availability risks and we have strong mitigating controls in place to manage these risks.

## Grant-making policy

The Board of Trustees make two types of grants. Firstly grants to assist children suffering from neuroblastoma. Families, who need help, either self-refer, hear about the Charity from their child's oncologist or make contact with the Charity's Family Support Team. Grants are also offered in the form of a hardship fund for families struggling to meet their necessary costs due to the effects of having a child in treatment for neuroblastoma.

The second type is research grants. We engage in two distinct research funding mechanisms; an annual competitive funding call, and also ad-hoc Exceptional Funding Requests. All research grants are awarded in line with the principles laid out by the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC). Each application will be subject to rigorous scientific review guided by the Charity's Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) and the nature of any grant made will depend on funds available through Solving Kids' Cancer UK's own reserves, or those made available through strategic collaborative partnerships.

## Investment policy and objectives

The Deed of Trust allows the Charity to deposit or invest funds in any manner; but to do so only after obtaining such advice from financial experts as the Trustees deem necessary and having regard to the

suitability of investments and need for diversification. The Charity aims to follow the COIF Ethical Fund Policy; excluding investments in companies involved in, for example, nuclear weapons, landmines, production of abortifacients, and other disqualifying criteria where there is a significant involvement (>10% of turnover).

## Fundraising approach and policy

As a cause-related Charity, we recognise that the service we offer for children and families affected by neuroblastoma and the advances in research we invest in would not be possible without the generous support and passion our supporters and families' supporters provide. We receive no public funding for our work, relying completely on the generous support of the neuroblastoma community and general public.

We are registered with the regulatory body for fundraising in the UK, the Fundraising Regulator. As members of the scheme, we follow its Code of Fundraising Practice and comply with the key principles embodied in it. Many of our families raise funds for us at a local level and we ensure that they have all the information they need to comply with our policies and procedures.

It is hugely important to us that our supporters trust us and are well looked after:

- We ensure that we never put undue pressure on members of the public when raising funds
- We are open and honest and approach our fundraising activities respectfully and considerately
- We ensure that we comply with the wishes of our donors and comply with all general data protection laws
- We respect the rights, dignities and privacy of our supporters and beneficiaries
- We are accountable

We review all of our fundraising campaigns to ensure they fully comply with the Code of Fundraising Practice and our fundraising activities are discussed regularly at Board meetings, to help ensure that our fundraising practices reflect and reinforce our values. That's just as important whether we're fundraising ourselves or working with families, organisations or volunteers.

We currently raise funds in a variety of ways, including: direct email campaigns; regular and individual giving programmes; virtual and in-person challenge events; corporate partnerships and percentage profit partnerships; direct cash donations; raffles; sponsored events; and Charity of

the Year partnerships. The impact of COVID-19 has been felt throughout the charity, our services and the children and families we support; despite this we had a stable year with over £2m in donations. £1.5m of this related to our family funds which are raised via community fundraising and events, most of which were virtual. Our unrestricted fundraising approach pivoted to virtual challenge and community events, appeals and corporate support.

We take the protection of the personal data of all our supporters and donors extremely seriously, and constantly review and monitor our fundraising policies and procedures to ensure we deliver 'best practice'. We do not engage professional fundraisers to raise money on our behalf.

We welcome feedback on our fundraising activities at any time and strive to listen and learn from this feedback. During the course of the year we recorded four complaints which were managed in line with our complaints policy to a satisfactory conclusion. Our complaints log is subject to regular review by the Board of Trustees. If a complaint about our fundraising activities is unable to be resolved through our complaints procedure, members of the public are advised to raise it with the Fundraising Regulator.

## Trustees responsibilities statement

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Solving Kids' Cancer UK for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and the income and expenditure of the Company for that period.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as each Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditor is unaware; and
- each Trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies' exemption.

Registered office:  
Coram Campus  
41 Brunswick Square  
London WC1N 1AZ

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees



**David Coulon**  
Trustee and Treasurer

27th September 2021



# Independent auditors report to the Trustees and members of Solving Kids' Cancer UK

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Solving Kids' Cancer UK Ltd ("the charitable company") for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

## Basis for opinion

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

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

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Solving Kids' Cancer UK Ltd's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

## Other information

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

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 2006**

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

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

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are

also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditors under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

### **The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud**

- We obtained an understanding of the charitable company's activities, controls and laws and regulations and assessed the susceptibility of

the charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement from irregularities, including fraud.

- We determined that the laws and regulations that are most significant to the charitable company are the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the 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 (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Fundraising Regulations and the charitable company's Articles of Association.
- Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to detecting irregularities, including fraud. Testing undertaken included making enquiries on the management and those charged with governance; journal entry testing; review of bank letters, investments reports, Trustee board minutes and the Articles of Association; review of transactions for any undisclosed related party transactions; reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations. These procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company, the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Simon Robinson**

Senior Statutory Auditor  
For and on behalf of Shipleys LLP  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor

10 Orange Street  
Haymarket  
London WC2H 7DQ

27th September 2021

# Financial statements

## Statement of financial activities (incorporating the income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2021

		General funds undesignated	General funds designated	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021	Total funds 2020
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>						
Donations	2	551,063	1,494,139	74,827	2,120,029	3,277,381
Trading activities	3	17,492	9,317	13,711	40,520	126,832
Investment income	4	135,042	-	1,680	136,722	131,813
<b>Total income</b>		<b>703,597</b>	<b>1,503,456</b>	<b>90,218</b>	<b>2,297,271</b>	<b>3,536,026</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Raising funds	5	(276,730)	(22,151)	(468)	(299,349)	(365,255)
Charitable activities	6	(417,556)	(1,289,187)	(303,620)	(2,010,363)	(2,192,355)
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>(694,286)</b>	<b>(1,311,338)</b>	<b>(304,088)</b>	<b>(2,309,712)</b>	<b>(2,557,610)</b>
<b>Net income/ (expenditure) before (losses)/gains on investments</b>						
		9,311	192,118	(213,870)	(12,441)	978,416
Net (losses) gains on investments	13	-	571,632	-	571,632	(88,097)
Net income/ (expenditure)		9,311	763,750	(213,870)	559,191	890,319
Transfer between funds	20, 21, 22	144,812	(250,957)	106,145	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>154,123</b>	<b>512,793</b>	<b>(107,725)</b>	<b>559,191</b>	<b>890,319</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		623,878	7,828,822	1,578,866	10,031,566	9,141,247
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>778,001</b>	<b>8,341,615</b>	<b>1,471,141</b>	<b>10,590,757</b>	<b>10,031,566</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 39 to 57 form part of these financial statements.

## Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2021

		2021	2021	2020	2020
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		13,042		3,099
Investments	13		3,414,945		2,843,313
			3,427,987		2,846,412
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	161,118		83,285	
Cash at bank in and hand		8,544,856		8,158,699	
		8,075,974		8,241,984	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	(986,042)		(777,948)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			7,719,932		7,464,036
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			11,147,919		10,310,448
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>	16		(557,162)		(278,882)
<b>Net assets</b>			10,590,757		10,031,566
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted funds	20		1,471,141		1,578,866
Designated funds	21		8,341,615		7,828,822
Undesignated funds	22		778,001		623,878
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<b>10,590,757</b>		<b>10,031,566</b>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee and authorised for issue on 27th September 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:



**David Coulon**

Trustee and Treasurer

Company registration number: 07208648

The notes on pages 39 to 57 form part of these financial statements.

## Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 March 2021

		2021	2020
	Note	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net income		559,191	890,319
<i>Adjustments for:</i>			
Depreciation		5,519	1,575
Losses / (gains) on investments		(571,632)	88,097
Dividends and interest from investments		(136,722)	(131,813)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		312	-
Decrease / (increase) in debtors		(51,628)	171,295
Increase in creditors		486,374	568,623
Net cash provided by operating activities		291,414	1,588,096
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Dividends and interest from investments		110,517	131,813
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(15,774)	(1,733)
Net cash provided by investing activities		94,743	130,080
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents</b>	28	386,157	1,718,176
<b>Cash at start of year</b>	28	8,158,699	6,440,523
<b>Cash at end of year</b>	28	<b>8,544,856</b>	<b>8,158,699</b>

The notes on pages 39 to 57 form part of these financial statements.

# Notes to the financial statements

## 1 Accounting policies

### General information

Solving Kids' Cancer UK Ltd is a private Company limited by guarantee incorporated in England under the Companies Act. The address of the registered office is Coram Campus, 41 Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AZ. The objectives of the Charity are set out on page 25.

On 18 September 2020, the charitable Company changed its name from Solving Kids' Cancer Europe to Solving Kids' Cancer UK Ltd.

### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Solving Kids' Cancer UK Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies.

The functional currency of the Charity is considered to be pounds sterling because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Charity operates. The financial statements are also presented in pounds sterling.

The amounts in the financial statements are presented to the nearest £, unless otherwise stated.

### Preparation of the financial statements on a going concern basis

The financial statements of the Charity have been prepared on the going concern basis. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue. The Trustees consider that the going concern basis is appropriate having considered a period of at least 12 months from approval of these financial statements. The Trustees have prepared budgets and cash flow forecasts for that period which support the going concern assumption.

### Fund accounting

Undesignated funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Charity.

Designated funds are funds of the Charity which the Trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity.

### Income

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

Donations are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

90% of any donation made to an individual appeal or journey is designated for the particular purpose of funding treatment not freely available on the NHS. The remaining 10% is retained within undesignated general funds to cover costs associated with the administration and management of appeals and journeys; including support with fundraising, logistics, and development of relationships as intermediary between families and the medical institutions that provide access to treatments and clinical trials.

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the Charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the Charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Charity which is the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income from Government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. In respect of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant; all conditions, with respect to the eligible costs being claimed, need to be met.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

### **Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of attracting donations and fundraising
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the cost incurred by the Charity in the delivery of activities and services for its beneficiaries

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objects of the Charity. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the grant. Grant awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling performance conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant and any remaining unfulfilled condition attaching to that grant is outside of the control of the Charity.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty as to the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the Charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include staff, premises, finance and governance costs. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the basis of an estimate of the proportion of time spent by staff on those activities.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the Charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Fixed assets are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

- Equipment – 25% on straight-line basis



**Fixed asset investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Financial instruments**

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Operating leases**

The Charity classifies the lease of the office space as an operating lease as the title remains with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

**Pension costs**

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Differences between contributions payable in the year and the contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments on the balance sheet.

## 2 Donations

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations	497,829	1,494,139	71,358	2,063,326
Donated services	53,234	–	–	53,234
Government grants	–	–	3,469	3,469
	551,063	1,494,139	74,827	2,120,029

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Donations	570,104	2,449,318	257,959	3,277,381

The Charity benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its many volunteers. In accordance with FRS 102 and Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the financial statements.

During the year, the Charity received donated services relating to legal services and support for the Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium. The value of these services to the Charity is estimated at £13,234 and £40,000 respectively (2020: £nil). The estimated value of these services is recognised within income as a donation with an equivalent expense through the Statement of Financial Activities.

Income from Government grants comprises grants received under the Government Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme of £3,469 (2020: £nil). This grant was provided to support the cost of furloughed Charity staff. The Charity has not benefited from any other kinds of government assistance during the current or prior year.

## 3 Other trading activities

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events	17,492	9,317	13,711	40,520

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events	43,792	69,664	–	113,456
Sponsorship income	13,376	–	–	13,376
	57,168	69,664	–	126,832

## 4 Investment income

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Income from investments	129,400	–	–	129,400
Deposit account interest	5,642	–	1,680	7,322
	135,042	–	1,680	136,722

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Income from investments	101,199	–	–	101,199
Deposit account interest	21,966	–	8,648	30,614
	123,165	–	8,648	131,813

## 5 Costs of raising funds

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	154,331	22,151	468	176,950
Support costs	122,399	–	–	122,399
	276,730	22,151	468	299,349

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Costs of raising funds	219,534	28,462	413	248,409
Support costs	116,846	–	–	116,846
	336,380	28,462	413	365,255

## 6 Costs of charitable activities

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Access to treatment	205,222	728,676	77,403	1,011,301
Medical research	59,300	704,181	22,981	786,462
Education, awareness and family support	5,353	115,265	91,982	212,600
	269,875	1,548,122	192,366	2,010,363

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Access to treatment	172,576	1,138,868	114,011	1,425,455
Medical research	42,314	465,071	33,783	541,168
Education, awareness and family support	147,359	11,873	66,500	225,732
	362,249	1,615,812	214,294	2,192,355

Expenditure on charitable activities was £2,010,363 (2020: £2,192,355) of which £417,556 was undesignated (2020: £404,201), £1,289,187 was designated (2020: £1,484,348) and £303,620 was restricted (2020: £303,806).

## 7 Analysis of support costs

Support costs are allocated based on the proportion of time spent by staff on those activities.

	Access to treatment	Medical research	Education, awareness and family support	Fundraising activities	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	31,989	6,178	53,029	57,129	148,325
Premises	17,833	6,598	15,296	25,630	65,357
Legal and professional	3,857	1,427	3,308	5,543	14,135
Finance costs	13,406	4,960	11,499	19,268	49,133
Depreciation	1,506	557	1,292	2,164	5,519
Governance costs	8,812	3,261	7,558	12,665	32,296
	77,403	22,981	91,982	122,399	314,765

	Access to treatment	Medical research	Education, awareness and family support	Fundraising activities	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	60,292	20,775	35,505	43,315	159,887
Premises	32,047	7,645	18,477	44,595	102,764
Legal and professional	2,359	563	1,360	3,282	7,564
Finance costs	8,852	2,112	5,104	12,319	28,387
Depreciation	491	117	283	684	1,575
Governance costs	9,970	2,571	5,771	12,651	30,963
	114,011	33,783	66,500	116,846	331,140

## 8 Governance costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Auditor's remuneration	12,540	12,300
Legal and professional	14,795	13,850
Staff costs	4,961	4,813
	32,296	30,963

## 9 Analysis of grants

	2021	2020
	£	£
Children's treatment	728,676	1,138,868
Medical research		
University of Birmingham	434,762	150,000
Children's Cancer Institute, Australia	-	13,950
Princess Maxima Center, Utrecht	-	27,815
Leeds Institute of Medical Research	-	58,328
Newcastle University	-	54,120
Hospital Vall d'Hebron, Barcelona	-	160,858
The Royal Marsden Hospital	60,000	-
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	68,750	-
ICR	31,250	-
Goustave Roussy Hospital, Paris	109,419	
Education and family support	115,265	11,873
	<u>1,548,122</u>	<u>1,615,812</u>

Children's treatment grants are made towards the medical costs of the children suffering from neuroblastoma. The grants are paid directly to the hospitals providing the treatment.

Grants are made towards medical research for potential future life-saving treatments made possible through the constantly evolving world of burgeoning laboratory, pre-clinical and clinical research. These grants are paid directly to the institutions and are largely international institutions which reflects the specialist and global nature of the research we fund.

Grants for education and family support are those made towards providing essential support services to families affected by high-risk childhood cancers and relating to scientific information on developments in research on neuroblastoma and evolving treatment options. These grants are paid directly to affected families and organisations as appropriate or as directed.

## 10 Staff costs and emoluments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	453,214	444,074
Social security costs	40,957	43,784
Pension costs – defined contribution	14,326	12,031
	<u>508,497</u>	<u>499,889</u>

Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs and are allocated between undesignated, designated and restricted funds on the basis of each employee's activities.

### Particulars of employees

The average head count of employees during the year was 14 (2020: 14). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Charitable activities	5	6
Fundraising	4	4
Support	3	2
	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>

The number of employees whose remuneration for the year fell within the following bands, were:

	2021	2020
	£	£
£60,000 to £69,999	–	1
£70,000 to £79,999	1	–
	<u>1</u>	<u>–</u>

No higher-paid staff were accruing benefits under a pension scheme (2020: None).

## 11 Net income

Net income is stated after charging:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Auditor's remuneration		
Audit	12,540	12,300
Taxation	780	780
Depreciation	5,519	1,575
Operating leases – offices	<u>26,107</u>	<u>52,338</u>

## 12 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
	£
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2020	72,463
Additions	15,774
Disposals	(64,075)
At 31 March 2021	<u>24,162</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2020	69,364
Charge for the year	5,519
Disposals	(63,763)
At 31 March 2021	<u>11,120</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 March 2021	<u>13,042</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>3,099</u>

## 13 Investments

Movement in market value	2021	2020
	£	£
Market value at 1 April 2020	2,843,313	2,931,410
Net gain/(loss) on revaluations	571,632	(88,097)
Market value at 31 March 2021	<u>3,414,945</u>	<u>2,843,313</u>
Historical cost at 31 March 2021	<u>2,500,000</u>	<u>2,500,000</u>

Analysis of investments at 31 March 2021	Designated funds 2021	Designated funds 2020
	£	£
UK listed investments	<u>3,414,945</u>	<u>2,843,313</u>

All investments are carried at their fair value. Holdings in investment funds, unit trusts and open-ended investment companies are at the bid price. The basis of fair value for quoted investments is equivalent to the market value, using the bid price. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

The following investments were material in the context of the investment portfolio:

- COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund – £3,414,945 (2020: £2,843,313).



The main form of financial risk faced by the Charity is that of volatility in investment markets due to wider economic conditions and variability of investment returns. This risk is mitigated by obtaining advice from a financial expert on the Charity's investment portfolio.

## 14 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	499	1,120
Other debtors	117,496	57,882
Prepayments and accrued income	43,123	24,283
	<u>161,118</u>	<u>83,285</u>

## 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Taxation and social security	–	5,493
Accruals and deferred income	13,843	20,326
Grant commitments (note 17)	373,987	394,255
Funds held as agent (note 18)	598,212	357,874
	<u>986,042</u>	<u>777,948</u>

## 16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Grant commitments (note 17)	<u>557,162</u>	<u>278,882</u>

Grant commitments of £153,976 are due in more than five years (2020: £nil).

## 17 Grant commitments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Grant commitments brought forward	673,137	449,830
New commitments during the year	704,181	465,071
Payments made in the year	(446,169)	(241,764)
Grant commitments carried forward	931,149	673,137
Commitments at 31 March 2021 are payable as follows		
Within one year	373,987	394,255
After more than one year	557,162	278,882
Grant commitments carried forward	931,149	673,137

## 18 Funds held as agent

	2021	2020
	£	£
Funds held as agent brought forward	357,874	–
Funds received during the year	249,191	357,874
Payments made	(8,853)	–
Funds held as agent carried forward	598,212	357,874

The charity has received funds as agent in its role as administrator of the Request for Applications (RFA) process and also of the research project for the prospective identification of children with 'ultra-high-risk' (UHR) neuroblastoma.

At the year end, the charity held £598,212 (2020: £357,874) and this has been included in creditors in Note 15. £349,176 was held on behalf of Zoe4Life (2020: £199,978) and £249,036 on behalf of The Merryn Lacy Trust (2020: £157,896).

## 19 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2021 the company had total minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Operating leases which expire within one year	9,833	13,367

## 20 Restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Families Against Neuroblastoma (FAN)	953,332	1,380	(12,973)	(4,551)	937,188
FAN Emergency Relapse Fund	289,653	300	(3,853)	–	286,100
HK Fund	15,842	–	–	–	15,842
CE Discretionary Fund	3,782	–	–	–	3,782
Restricted Research Funds	45,000	–	(45,000)	–	–
Parent Conference Fund	–	16,301	(16,301)	–	–
Other funds	95,429	23,768	(138,209)	110,696	91,684
Joining Against Cancer in Kids	33,713	–	(6,533)	–	27,180
Sunni Mae Fund	84,365	–	–	–	84,365
COVID-19 Fund	32,750	20,000	(52,750)	–	–
Family Support Fund	25,000	25,000	(25,000)	–	25,000
Furlough Fund	–	3,469	(3,469)	–	–
	1,578,866	90,218	(304,088)	106,145	1,471,141

	Balance at 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Families Against Neuroblastoma (FAN)	958,524	19,192	(24,384)	–	953,332
FAN Emergency Relapse Fund	354,263	1,539	(66,149)	–	289,653
HK Fund	18,581	17	(2,756)	–	15,842
CE Discretionary Fund	19,819	–	(1,037)	(15,000)	3,782
Restricted Research Funds	30,000	–	–	15,000	45,000
Parent Conference Fund	–	80,000	(80,000)	–	–
Other funds	115,835	41,244	(111,106)	49,456	95,429
Joining Against Cancer in Kids	50,000	–	(16,287)	–	33,713
Sunni Mae Fund	–	84,365	–	–	84,365
COVID-19 Fund	–	15,250	(2,500)	20,000	32,750
Family Support Fund	–	25,000	–	–	25,000
	1,547,022	266,607	(304,219)	69,456	1,578,866

**Restricted funds** can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity as specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

### **Families Against Neuroblastoma (FAN)/FAN Emergency Relapse Fund**

There are 10 funds transferred from Families Against Neuroblastoma (FAN) and held for the sole use of individual children for access to treatment and welfare / pastoral issues. Treatments are limited to those that are consistent with Solving Kids' Cancer UK Ltd Clinical Trial Policy. A further two donations from FAN were received to be used solely to support children with relapsed neuroblastoma with no access to other funds to pay for treatment that is not freely available on the NHS. During the year, £4,551 was transferred from this fund to unrestricted funds (2020: £nil). This represented interest accumulated on a closed FAN fund which should have been credited to the unrestricted fund in prior years.

### **HK Fund**

HK Fund is restricted for the sole purposes of supporting an individual named child. In accordance with the wishes of the donor, the fund supports the long-term health and welfare related needs of the beneficiary, and is not accessed on a regular basis.

### **CE Discretionary Fund**

CE Discretionary Fund was established through an individual donation made to the Charity to provide the Chief Executive with a means to fund initiatives in support of the effective working of the organisation, but for which no other budget existed. During the year, £nil (2020: £15,000) was transferred to Restricted Research Funds at the request of the donor as this level of funds was no longer required in this fund.

### **Restricted Research Funds**

Restricted Research Funds is a restricted fund where monies are not currently awarded to any specific research project, but nonetheless earmarked to support research.

### **Parent Conference Fund**

Parent Conference Fund represents donations towards the annual parent conference.

### **Other funds**

Other funds represent funds created by families in memoriam specifically for research and advocacy projects. During the year £110,696 (2020: £nil) was transferred from the designated Research Fund to support these research projects. During the year £nil (2020: £49,456) was transferred from designated funds to other funds following the undesignation of the Special Events Fund. The original purpose to fund event places was no longer required.

### **Joining Against Cancer in Kids**

Joining Against Cancer in Kids is a restricted fund which has been provided by Joining Against Cancer in Kids (J-A-C-K) to support the costs incurred by families when participating in neuroblastoma trials/treatment being conducted at The Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre, New York or Hospital Saint Joan de Déu Barcelona.

### **Sunni Mae Fund**

Sunni Mae Fund is restricted to support the development of a partnership with a UK medical institution to enable children from the Republic of Ireland to travel to the United Kingdom to enrol on early phase clinical trials that are not available at Our Lady Children's Hospital, Crumlin. Alternatively, if such a partnership cannot be formed, the fund can be used to support a future research funding call in which The Sunni Mae Trust will be acknowledged as a named collaborative funding partner. Explicit agreement will be sought for the latter at such time as the Charity deems appropriate.

### **COVID-19 Fund**

COVID-19 Fund is restricted to the granting of funds to families of children with Neuroblastoma who have suffered a loss of income or increase in costs as a result of the diagnosis. It is initially for those affected by the need to shield during COVID-19. During the year £nil (2020: £20,000) was transferred from designated funds which reflects the charity's initial 50% commitment to the fund alongside J-A-C-K.

### **Family Support Fund**

Family Support Fund is restricted to the activities of the Family Support Team.

### **Furlough Fund**

Furlough Fund represents a government grant provided to support the cost of furloughed Charity staff.

## 21 Designated funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Net losses on investments	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	7,182,484	1,328,542	(916,601)	(1,402,616)	–	6,191,809
Solving Kids' Cancer Children's Reserve Fund	197,410	–	–	280,523	–	477,933
Lorlatinib	60,000	–	(60,000)	–	–	–
Solving Kids' Cancer Research Fund	–	174,042	(316,793)	871,136	–	728,385
Family Support Fund	45,615	–	(2,192)	(15,000)	–	28,423
COVID–19 Fund	–	872	(15,752)	15,000	–	120
Investment reserve	343,313	–	–	–	571,632	914,945
	7,828,822	1,503,456	(1,311,338)	(250,957)	571,632	8,341,615

	Balance at 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Net losses on investments	Balance at 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	5,836,898	2,518,982	(1,158,434)	(14,962)	–	7,182,484
Solving Kids' Cancer Children's Reserve Fund	197,410	–	–	–	–	197,410
Lorlatinib	60,000	–	–	–	–	60,000
Solving Kids' Cancer Research Fund	339,414	–	(354,376)	14,962	–	–
Family Support Fund	65,615	–	–	(20,000)	–	45,615
Investment reserve	431,410	–	–	–	(88,097)	343,313
Special Events Fund	49,456	–	–	(49,456)	–	–
	6,980,203	2,518,982	(1,512,810)	(69,456)	(88,097)	7,828,822

**Designated funds** are funds which have been allocated by the trustees out of undesignated general funds to specific appeals for the treatment of children with neuroblastoma. In the event of a child's death, the funds will be released from designated funds. Following the end of a successful course of treatment, and a child exhibiting No Evidence of Disease (NED), funds will remain designated for a period of five years so that they are

available for that child should they suffer a relapse and require further treatment, a situation which is common for neuroblastoma patients. During the year, this policy resulted in transfers of £1,402,616 (2020: £nil) with 70% transferred to the designated Solving Kids' Cancer Research Fund, 20% to the designated Solving Kids' Cancer Children's Reserve Fund and 10% to undesignated reserves. During the year, £nil (2020: £14,962) was transferred from in memoriam to designated research funds.

**Solving Kids' Cancer Children's Reserve Fund**

Solving Kids' Cancer Children's Reserve Fund is money designated to:

- Support families who are fundraising for treatment who may require additional financial support to be able to meet the deadlines for enrolment on a particular clinical trial
- Support children who are receiving treatment abroad but for whom additional unanticipated medical expenses are incurred. During the year £280,523 was transferred from designated funds (2020: £nil)

**Lorlatinib**

Lorlatinib is a designated fund set up to hold monies that have been awarded to The Royal Marsden Hospital for the Lorlatinib clinical trial.

**Solving Kids' Cancer Research Fund**

Solving Kids' Cancer Research Fund is a designated fund where monies are not currently awarded to any specific research project, but nonetheless earmarked to support research. During the year, £981,832 was transferred from designated funds (2020: £nil), £110,696 was transferred to restricted other funds (2020: £nil) and £nil (2020: £14,962) was transferred from designated in memoriam funds.

**Family Support Fund**

Family Support Fund is designated to the activities of the Family Support Team. During the year £15,000 was transferred to the designated COVID-19 Fund (2020: £20,000 to the restricted COVID-19 Fund)

**COVID-19 Fund**

COVID-19 Fund is designated to the granting of funds to families of children with Neuroblastoma who have suffered a loss of income or increase in costs as a result of the diagnosis. It is initially for those affected by the need to shield during COVID-19. During the year £15,000 (2020: £nil) was transferred from the designated Family Support Fund.

**Investment reserve**

Investment reserve represents the movement in fair value on investments since acquisition.

**Special Event Fund**

Special Event Fund is a designated fund where monies are not currently awarded to any specific event, but nonetheless earmarked to help fund events for fundraising.

**22 Undesignated funds**

	<b>Balance at 1 April 2020</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March 2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Undesignated funds	623,878	703,597	(694,286)	144,812	778,001

	<b>Balance at 1 April 2019</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March 2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Undesignated funds	614,022	750,437	(740,581)	–	623,878

## 23 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	13,042	–	–	13,042
Investments	–	3,414,945	–	3,414,945
Cash at bank and in hand	1,299,123	5,640,261	1,605,472	8,544,856
Other net current (liabilities)/assets	(534,164)	(156,429)	(134,331)	(824,924)
Creditors falling due in more than one year	–	(557,162)	–	(557,162)
	778,001	8,341,615	1,471,141	10,590,757

Fund balances at 31 March 2020 are represented by:

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,099	–	–	3,099
Investments	–	2,843,313	–	2,843,313
Cash at bank and in hand	840,173	5,274,644	2,043,882	8,158,699
Other net current (liabilities)/assets	(219,394)	(133,113)	(465,016)	(817,523)
Creditors falling due in more than one year	–	(156,022)	–	(156,022)
	623,878	7,828,822	1,578,866	10,031,566

## 24 Company limited by guarantee

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is £10.

## 25 Taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

## 26 Related party transactions

The key management personnel of the Charity for the period comprised the Trustees, Chief Executive and the Heads of Departments. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £289,017 (2020: £276,274).

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration or other benefits during the year (2020: £nil). The Trustees did not receive any reimbursement of expenses during the year (2020: £nil)

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, a firm in which a Trustee, David Coulon, is a member, provided HR services to the charity for £5,400 (2020: £3,600). The supplier relationship ended in December 2020.

The Neuroblastoma Parent Global Symposium and the Carol Concert were supported by GRC World Forums (previously Data World Protection Forum), an organisation in which Nicholas James, the husband of a Trustee,

Bron Ellis, has a controlling interest. GRC World Forums provided the platform for £1,620 (2020: £nil), but provided all other services free of charge. In the prior year, GRC World Forums supported the Carol Concert and purchased tickets at market value of £600 and were acknowledged as supporter in the concert programme.

During the year, the Charity paid salaries of £2,420 (2020: £nil) to a close family member of Nick Bird, a Trustee. The total donations received from four Trustees (2020: two) during the year amounted to £2,906 (2020: £750).

## 27 Financial instruments

Financial assets measured at fair value through statement of financial activities:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Investments	3,414,945	2,843,313

The income, expense, gains and losses in respect of all financial instruments are summarised below:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net (loss) / gain on revaluation of investments	571,632	(88,097)
Investment income	129,400	101,199

For further details about risks arising from financial instruments and the measurement basis see note 13.

## 28 Analysis of changes in debt

	At 1 April 2020	Cash flows	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£
Net cash: cash at bank and in hand	8,158,699	386,157	8,544,856

	At 1 April 2019	Cash flows	At 31 March 2020
	£	£	£
Net cash: cash at bank and in hand	6,440,523	1,718,176	8,158,699



## 29 Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Undesignated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Donations	570,104	2,449,318	257,959	3,277,381
Trading activities	57,168	69,664	-	126,832
Investment income	123,165	-	8,648	131,813
<b>Total income</b>	750,437	2,518,982	266,607	3,536,026
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Raising funds	(336,380)	(28,462)	(413)	(365,255)
Charitable activities	(404,201)	(1,484,348)	(303,806)	(2,192,355)
<b>Total expenditure</b>	(740,581)	(1,512,810)	(304,219)	(2,557,610)
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before losses on investments</b>	9,856	1,006,172	(37,612)	978,416
Net losses on investments	-	(88,097)	-	(88,097)
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	9,856	918,075	(37,612)	890,319
Transfer between funds	-	(69,456)	69,456	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	9,856	848,619	31,844	890,319
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	614,022	6,980,203	1,547,022	9,141,247
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	623,878	7,828,822	1,578,866	10,031,566

# Thank you!

We want to say a big thank you to the following companies, people, schools, charities, foundations and trusts for their support.

## Companies

Allen & Overy LLP  
Baxi Heating UK  
Burnt Peach  
Charity Travel  
Data Protection World Forum  
Fine Tubes Ltd  
GamesAid  
Google  
GRC World Forum  
Greenergy  
Henley Shipping  
ICECO Ltd  
Intercontinental Exchange (ICE)  
ITech Media  
Jefferies  
Lehane Rock School  
Liberty London  
Mark Bushnell Ltd  
Marks Sattin  
Marlin- Smartsearch  
Maurice Turnor Gardner  
McClure Solicitors  
Moody's - BVD Publishing Limited  
Pasta 'n' Play  
Privacy Culture  
PWC Foundation  
Scamp and Dude  
Skin I Care  
Smart Tech  
SmartCredit Ltd  
Sparkle Child  
Squire Patton Boggs  
The Makery  
Waitrose  
Women in Motion  
Y-mAbs Therapeutics Inc.

## Ambassadors and individuals

Clare and Chris Andrew  
Mimoza Bag  
Avani Desha Bhalla  
Jessica Bird (volunteer)  
Jake Bird  
Rosie Brandreth  
Abby Burgin  
Nandini Chatto  
Maggie Cherry  
Amy Coleman  
Graham Cooper  
Dot Courtney  
Spencer Crossley  
Clare Dawson  
Rev Anne Doerr, Royal Marsden  
Ben Doltis  
Jeremy Doltis  
Gemma Gould  
Tom Grennan  
Jo Hockton  
Lee Hodson  
Anna Kaye  
Stewart and Cassie Leaver  
Róisín McMullan  
Dan Moore  
Rachel Moore  
Adam Murphy  
Mark Nicholson  
Jacinta Nuttall  
Helen Pearson  
Lara Polati  
Malcolm Raven  
Pam Sekhon  
Steve Taylor  
Iulia and Padmesh Thuraisingham  
Ioannis Topsakalidis  
Mark Ward

## Patron and champions

Rob Brydon  
Demie Risby

## Parent Involvement Forum

Anna Austin  
Naomi Bentham  
Leeanne Brennan  
Kate Dixon  
Claire Donnelly  
Garrett Fitzgerald  
Stewart Leaver  
Naomi Shefford-Thomas  
Carrie Wright

## Schools

Bramley Church of England  
Primary School  
London Oratory School Chamber  
Choir  
St. Vincent Primary School  
The Hurst Community College  
The Read School, Selby

## Charities, foundations and trusts

Band of Parents  
Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer  
Foundation  
Ecclesiastical  
Joining Against Cancer in Kids  
(J-A-C-K)  
Kids Out  
Neuroblastoma Australia  
Neuroblastoma UK  
Ronan Thompson Foundation  
Solving Kids' Cancer US  
St James' Place Charitable  
Foundation  
St. George's Society of New York  
The Merryn Lacy Trust  
The Rose Foundation  
Wade's Army  
Zoe4Life

## Family and named funds

Alfie's Wishes  
Oscar Knox Fund  
Smiles for Stanley  
The Charlie Hook Appeal  
Trust Fund





## Solving Kids' Cancer UK is a registered charity

We receive no public funding for our work, relying completely on the generous support of the neuroblastoma community and general public. To support our work, please visit [www.solvingkidscancer.org.uk/donate](http://www.solvingkidscancer.org.uk/donate) or scan the QR code:



### Solving Kids' Cancer UK

Coram Campus, 41 Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AZ  
Telephone [020 7284 0800](tel:02072840800)

 [SolvingKidsCancer365](https://www.facebook.com/SolvingKidsCancer365)

 [SKC\\_UK](https://twitter.com/SKC_UK)  [skc365](https://www.instagram.com/skc365)

 [Solving Kids' Cancer UK](https://www.linkedin.com/company/solving-kids-cancer-uk)

[www.solvingkidscancer.org.uk](http://www.solvingkidscancer.org.uk)

Solving Kids' Cancer UK Ltd is a registered charity in England and Wales (1135601), and in Scotland (SC045094). It is a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (7208648). The charity and company is currently operating as Solving Kids' Cancer UK.

**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research  
Non-commercial partners

Member of  
**amrc**  
ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL RESEARCH CHARITIES

Registered with  
**FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR**