Giving disabled children a brighter future

Annual Review 2019-2020



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Chairman's Welcome

Only 4% of parent carers feel they get the right support to safely care for their disabled children.*

This is why KIDS exists. We provide support to disabled children and their families, right across the country. Right now, we are needed more than ever.

This Annual Review looks back over the last year, but it is impossible to write in the autumn of 2020 without acknowledging the impact that Covid-19 has had on all of us, and just how disproportionate that impact has been for disabled children.

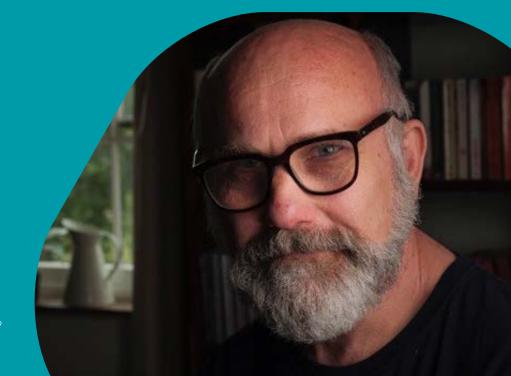
Last year KIDS staff provided support and advice to over 13,700 disabled children and young people. We supported babies with visits at home, provided outstanding specialist care in our nurseries, helped children to access education and worked with our teenagers and young adults to give them independence and a voice of their own. All of this is only possible thanks to our supporters. Thank you.

As you read through our Annual Review this year, we have picked out just some of our many services to highlight. I hope this gives you a flavour of what we are doing, day in and day out, to change the lives of thousands of disabled children, young people and their families. We are now working against a backdrop of the impact of Covid-19, decreasing local authority funding and increased needs of the families that we are working with. This is undoubtedly a challenging time.

However, we have optimism for the future. This year I have also welcomed our new Chief Executive, Katie Ghose; we are developing our new goals - which will navigate us through these new ways of delivering support - and the feedback from our families gives us great hope. We know that what we are doing today is making a significant difference to the futures of disabled children. I would like to say an enormous thank you to our staff, our volunteers, our supporters and the families and children we work with. KIDS is a family; by working together we will ensure a brighter future for all disabled children and young people – whatever the background to the world we are working within.

Sreph

Stephen Unwin Chair



* Disabled Children's Partnership, Give It Back Survey 2019

Survey feedback







The bigger picture...



of parent carers have experienced relationship breakdown with a partner since diagnosis. 64% of those say a lack of support had a major impact on the breakdown of a relationship.** **Y 370** of parents of disabled children from birth to five believe they can have the same aspirations for their child as parents of non-disabled children.***

* (Scope: The Disability Price Tag 2019)

** (Disabled Children's Partnership, Give It Back Survey 2019)

*** (Scope: Now is the time - supporting disabled children and their families 2018)

Chief Executive's message

It was an honour to become KIDS' Chief Executive in the autumn of 2019 and to step into the shoes of Caroline Stevens, who did so much in her six years of service to strengthen KIDS' reach and impact. 2020 also marks the charity's 50th anniversary and conclusion of our current strategy. Now is the time to work with our children, young people, families, staff and supporters to put in place our goals for the next chapter.

Looking back, we have made great advances in the goals we set ourselves four years ago. We have significantly strengthened the opportunities we can offer to young disabled people aged 14-25. We continue to provide more for this age group, with new services starting up in Bridlington, London and the West Midlands in the coming months.

Another area of notable impact, is the role we play in shaping Government policy on supporting and promoting young disabled people's participation in decision making. We empower young people to take an active role in delivering training on behalf of the Department for Education so that those who make decisions can fully appreciate the challenges faced by disabled young people.

We have successfully extended our work with health agencies. For example we have worked with Health Education England and the Institute of Health Visiting to explore how to improve the early experience of families with a disabled child so that parents can get the right information at the right time, delivered in the right way. Our fifty years of working closely with families enabled us to share valuable insights from their everyday experiences.

We have also transformed how we can work together as one team across our range of services and locations. We have new systems in finance, IT, digital services and HR that mean our frontline services can flourish. We are more effective and able to scale and replicate successful initiatives with ease across different parts of the country. The value of this work came into its own as KIDS was able to quickly adapt to remote working and alternative methods of service delivery when Covid-19 restrictions were introduced in March. "I can't begin to describe how appreciative we are to KIDS for the food deliveries. There's been plenty of times when supermarket shelves were stripped empty from essentials and then voilà! KIDS saves the day with a food parcel on a Friday. Thanks a million for the huge difference you're making."



Finally, we worked hard to ensure more people know about our services. As part of this we extended our online and social media presence and had successful appeals featured on the BBC. At the end of 2019 I was fortunate to go out and meet many children, young people, family members and staff before Covid-19 put a halt to my travels. On every visit, from Hull to Hampshire, I was warmly welcomed. I was struck by both the quality and the range of services that KIDS offers, and above all by the trusted relationships our staff build with families, often lasting years.

2020 has been an unforgettable year for us all. Covid-19 has affected everyone and disabled children, young people and their families have been hit heavily by the illness, the isolation and numerous challenges of life in lockdown.

KIDS mounted an incredible response. We kept our doors open and continued to provide services throughout – including our nurseries and our residential house that continued to host children and young people for overnight stays.

Where groups were unable to meet we have used technology to support parents to meet virtually. We adapted to meet families' immediate needs, we put them in touch with local sources of support including food banks and nappies as well as providing sleep consultations on-line. We developed a raft of fun resources for parents and carers to use at home with their children, from sensory packs through to videos made by our staff with individual songs and favourite stories tailored to each child. We kept in regular touch with parents and carers, especially those in the most vulnerable circumstances, including with daily telephone calls.

Like many charities delivering services, finances were already stretched and the pandemic has increased these challenges, especially for fundraised income. KIDS' creativity and determination to work alongside children and families to offer practical and emotional support came to the fore during the crisis and is a strong foundation on which we can move forwards.

Looking to the future we are now considering our next chapter. How we can strengthen our offer, reach more families and raise our profile to influence policy, change attitudes and secure a bright future for every child, whatever their disability.

We will keep striving for positive change. As a member of the Council for Disabled Children, the Disabled Children's Partnership and other key bodies, we will continue to build our influence to make a difference to how disabled children are supported across the country by actively helping to shape commissioning policies. Our goal is that our families can feel confident in their entitlements and our staff will continue to advocate on their behalf and negotiate with local authorities to ensure that each family receives the support that they need.

KIDS was founded 50 years ago from a partnership with a parent. This founding relationship still drives how we work today. We work closely with parents and carers and are passionate to listen and learn from young disabled people. We want to hear everyone's voices reflected in our work. This means that we can target what we do, know that it is what is needed, and that our support is making a difference that counts.

Katie Ghose Chief Executive

"I was struggling financially and emotionally. My son has had to go back to school part time since June 1st so I could get some respite. Caring 24/7 as a single parent has been exhausting and soul-destroying."

We help in the early years

100



KIDS has supported 600 babies and toddlers over the past year with quality and effective support.

Jessica's story

My daughter Jessica has hydrocephalus, cerebral palsy and global development delay. When she was still a young baby, our health visitor referred us to the KIDS crèche in Birchwood. She's been attending for nearly two years now, and it has made an enormous difference to her – and to me.

Jessica loves interacting at the crèche, particularly joining in with song words and actions. I've also watched her become more confident with messy play activities from her time at KIDS - initially she was very reluctant to touch new textures. Her speech and Makaton skills have really improved too, she likes to come home and tell me what she has learned each day.

When Jessica started at KIDS, I felt incredibly nervous leaving her, it took me around six months to have the confidence to just drop her off and leave. Now when we get to the crèche, Jessica knows where we are and is excited to be there and very keen to wave me off so that she can go and play with her friends. She's often reluctant to leave when I collect her!

It's lovely to be able to have a couple of hours to do something for myself too, in fair weather I often take the opportunity to go for a long walk with our dog. It also gives me the opportunity to go to the supermarket as I can't do this with Jessica. I can relax knowing Jessica is in safe hands and with people who understand her physical and medical needs. Lockdown has hit everyone hard, I didn't expect to still be hearing from the staff but they have kept in touch regularly to check how we are and whether we need anything. It's so lovely to have them in our lives and we're looking forward to being able to attend sessions again once it's safe to do so.

Government funding for early intervention services has been cut by almost £500 million since 2013.*

We provide respite

Taylor's story

Our daughter Taylor is now 13 years old. Taylor has Down's Syndrome and also still experiences the side effects of having meningitis when she was a baby.

Taylor really enjoys her Short Breaks with her KIDS Support Worker, Siobhan. I think it makes her feel more grown up and independent to be out with someone other than her parents. Taylor is very situational therefore she will go places and do things with Siobhan that if we were to do with her she would not enjoy as much. Possibly because we "protect" her too much and constantly tell her to be careful!

Taylor now has more confidence that she can do things on her own or away from us. Siobhan encourages Taylor to pay with her own money and make her own choices. It's great that she gets out into the community more and in different settings.

Originally Taylor's dad was working away all week so we never had any time to discuss things or get things done and I was exhausted through working all week and being responsible for everything. So, from our perspective the time Taylor spends with Siobhan has allowed us to either discuss things or get things done that we could not necessarily do during the week or when he was home at weekends as Taylor wanted to spend time with him. We are able to relax when Taylor is with Siobhan knowing that she is in safe hands, the value of this cannot be underestimated.

Taylor has become even more of a "home bird" due to lockdown so coming out of it may be more challenging but hopefully this will be made easier with the support of Siobhan when normal services resume. In the meantime, Siobhan has kept in touch and had video calls us - Taylor knows that others are still thinking of her and want to stay in touch. Only 9% of parent carers in a 2015 survey agreed with the statement that 'Families with disabled children can access the short breaks they need.*

KIDS has delivered over 150,000 hours of short breaks over the last 12 months.



* NPC Invest in young lives report 2016

We encourage play and independence

Ben's story

Ben is 14 years old and has autism. He has been participating in KIDS events and clubs for four years. Ben attends after-school club and events during the school holidays.

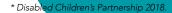
Our son Ben gets excited for after school club every week. His favourite activities are playing football, playing on the Wii and eating tea! Ben's confidence and social skills have increased since he started going to KIDS, it is clear that he feels welcome and comfortable. I have also noticed positive changes to his behaviour. Ben has attended a number of trips and activities during the school holidays, he has thoroughly enjoyed them all and always looks forward to the booking forms arriving!

Ben has really missed attending KIDS during lockdown and wanted to give something back for all of the care and support he has received from the staff over the years. Ben decided to undertake a virtual mountain climb by walking up and down the stairs 174 times. He completed his mission and raised over £700. We are all very proud of his achievement.

As a parent I am very grateful for the services KIDS offer. The staff are all incredibly friendly and helpful and go above and beyond to help the children and young adults they work with. It is heart-warming to see Ben so happy. The holiday club activities are really useful to help keep Ben occupied during the holidays, there are very few options for activities for children with disabilities locally. If it wasn't for KIDS Ben wouldn't have a safe place where he could go to socialise with his friends and enjoy activities. I know of several other families who receive support from KIDS and all of them have only positive stories to tell.



9 in 10 parents say they had to fight to get the services they need.*





We ensure young people's voices are heard

Carly's story

Hi I am Carly and I have been with the Young People's Participation Team for about five years. This group is all about making sure that we are involved when decisions that affect our lives are being made. We get to talk to health professionals and people who work for local authorities so that we can share our experiences and it helps them to understand how their decisions make a difference to our lives. I joined this group because I saw a KIDS presentation about having a voice - it inspired me to want to join in and get involved.

At first I was shy and didn't know anyone. As the months went on I got to know people and made friends in the group. I even helped someone else who wasn't confident to have his voice heard speak out. There was one particular session where he had a great idea and didn't want to say anything, but he wrote it down and I held it up and said it for him. Everyone is so supportive and makes sure that we are all included in what we are doing.

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I became more confident and started to build up my excitement for the presentations that our team deliver. We had a session with professionals from across a local authority. I loved speaking to the room full of people and this boosted me even more.

I've also been involved in helping KIDS to recruit new staff. This was a great experience, helping me understand about getting a job, interviews and helped me increase my confidence in travelling as well. I was still nervous but KIDS have shown me that with the right support I can achieve more than I or anyone ever expected.

Being in front of these people, telling them about participation, communication, and how to involve young people was so good. I have developed so many skills and now the confidence to use them which has helped me in college as well as finding work. I would never have had this opportunity and made this much change in my life without KIDS. It has shown me the importance of raising people's awareness of different disabilities and giving everyone a voice. KIDS has supported over 500 young disabled people this year via our Youth Groups.

> Disabled young people aged 16-18 were at least twice as likely as their non-disabled peers to not be in education, employment or training.*

* Papworth Trust, Disability in the UK: Facts and Figures 2018

Our Year in numbers











increase in number of people supported through our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)

"I feel KIDS is a big help and their service to the community is great. If it wasn't for KIDS I wouldn't know what to do and what steps to take to help my son."



increase for those that received Mediation support to settle issues between young people and local authorities and schools or other education providers "I can't thank the staff enough for what they do for River. I believe attending KIDS has changed both of our lives."



"The time I get to spend for myself whilst Jacob is at KIDS is immensely beneficial as I have no other respite."





COVID-19 has made life even harder for the families we support

Many of our families faced increased worries that their child's medical condition may make them more vulnerable to significant impact from Covid-19, and we know that many were self-isolating for months.

For many months remote learning became the norm and learning in this way is significantly harder for children with disabilities who usually receive significant support to access education. There is also the ongoing impact of cancelled appointments and assessments, and the prospect of a long wait now services have been resumed.

Put simply, we were already supporting families at crisis point and children's safety and well-being is now at increased risk.



KIDS did not close, but we did have to adapt, and quickly. Here is how we supported children, young people and their families through the pandemic:

- Weekly well-being calls to some families to help to reduce isolation and loneliness. Including strategies for keeping physically and mentally healthy.
- Virtual workshops across all age groups including singing, quizzes, competitions and whole family sessions.
- Virtual SENDIASS and mediation sessions to support families in accessing education.
- Over 400 activity and sensory packs distributed.
- Over 50 families supported with weekly food parcels, and others supported with shopping and medication collection for shielding families.
- Social media groups for families and our staff to connect.
- Facebook live sessions to enable interaction and questions to be answered.
- Increased Instagram presence to engage with our teenagers and young adults.

We have also continued with face to face support:

- Wylde Green and Basingstoke nurseries remained open
- Lincolnshire continued to run a domiciliary care programme, supporting families at home.
- Short break sessions moved outdoors, to ensure that Government advice was followed.
- Our playgrounds ran crisis sessions for children not in school, and supported a neighbouring special school to cover their staff shortages and deliver play sessions on our site.

76% of parent carers have seen the support they received before lockdown stop.*

"The support we have had from the KIDS team has been exceptional. The stories and songs via video are thoroughly enjoyed by our little one. He is so excited to see them every time and a weekly call to the grown-ups has also helped me stay sane. Thank you"

* Disabled Children's Partnership, Left in Lockdown Survey 2020



"During the pandemic, KIDS has been my rock. They have allowed him to still go to the nursery and when not in, they have provided us with family activities to ensure he is constantly making progress."





"My child has not stopped playing with the items included in the sensory box. Thank you so much this has had a positive impact on my child's behaviour." "KIDS sessions give him something to look forward to and take his mind off his worries. It is invaluable respite for us."

Fundraising

Over the last year we have continued to enjoy success with our fundraising programme across all of our regions.

Highlights include a three-year project in Hampshire with the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity to support military families in the area and Morrisons have generously covered the cost of installing an accessible swing at our residential home, Russell House in the South West – this has been very well used over the lockdown period.

Paperchase have now been supporting KIDS for an incredible 11 years with over £200,000 raised to date via the sale of Christmas cards; Greystar held a fantastic event for us last summer, culminating in a spectacular dinner held at the Serpentine Gallery.

In Yorkshire we have been awarded a threeyear grant from the National Lottery Community Fund to set up a Young Person's Participation group in Bridlington – these young people will now go on to have an influence on decision makers and shape services in their region. Our supporters continue to do so much for us. They have raised funds, taken part in Swim Serpentine and attended a Murder Mystery evening – with 70 intrepid guests solving clues in this circus-themed evening.

Our Trust funders support remains outstanding – we have been able to provide additional home learning support in Camden, continue with our Staying Positive group in Stockport and develop a new training programme for our staff – all thanks to their donations.

Finally, we must mention our BBC Lifeline Appeal, hosted for us by Claire Skinner. Not only did we raise funds, but we reached new people and were able to showcase just why our work is so important to so many families. As we look to the future we will continue to be creative and adapt our fundraising to ensure that we can continue to succeed within the new restrictions that Covid-19 has placed on all of us.

We are hugely thankful to every single supporter. Without you we could not provide vital support to so many disabled children and their families.





National Diversity Awards Unspectation Unity in Society We News Celebrating Unity in Society



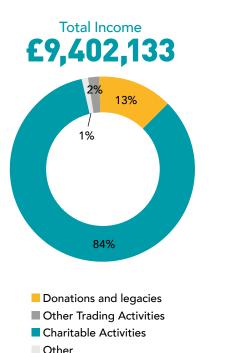
"I've recommended KIDS to other people as I do believe it provides an excellent service and much needed respite to families that might otherwise struggle."



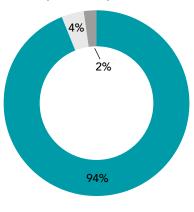
Financial analysis for the year

Income for the group has decreased from £10.083 million to £9.402 million. This has been due to the closure of a number of services in the South East region.

Overall the net asset position of the group has increased from £7.463 million to £7.512 million, an increase of £0.049 million. Restricted reserves decreased £0.020 million with unrestricted reserves (excluding the property reserve) increasing from £2.404 million to £2.473 million. Reserves have increased year on year (excluding last year). Fundraised income has increased this year with the growth being in restricted income. Unrestricted Income has dropped this year and local authority tendered contracts make up the most of this income. With continuous cuts to local government funding it is becoming more difficult to operate on a break even basis. KIDS is committed to paying the national minimum wage, however annual increases, lack of increased rates from Local Authorities and recruitment issues in certain parts of the country have all contributed to increasingly tight margins. KIDS continually monitors the financial viability of contracts and is making the difficult decision of closing projects where costs exceed the income received.



Total Expenditure **£9,353,120**



Costs of generating voluntary income

Costs of activities for generating funds

Charitable Activities

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities

(including consolidated income and expenditure account) for year ending 31 March 2020)

			2020	2019
	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total Funds (£)	Total Funds (£)
Income:				
Donations and legacies	370,733	862,527	1,233,260	1,171,778
Charitable Activities	7,893,062	0	7,893,062	8,583,100
Other Trading Activities	159,639	56,950	216,589	298,971
Investments	6,487	0	6,487	4,031
Other	52,735	0	52,735	25,046
Total income	8,482,656	919,477	9,402,133	10,082,926
Expenditure:				
Raising Funds	540,557	0	540,557	631,492
Charitable Activities	7,985,775	826,788	8,812,563	9,369,478
Total Expenditure	8,526,332	826,788	9,353,120	10,000,970
Net Income / (Expenditure)	(43,676)	92,689	49,013	81,956
Revaluation of Fixed Assets	0	0	0	(604,344)
Transfers	112,954	(112,954)	0	0
Net Movement in Funds	69,278	(20,265)	49,013	(522,388)
Reconciliation of Funds:				
Total Fund brought forward	6,819,114	643,730	7,462,844	7,985,232
Total funds carried forward	6,888,392	623,465	7,511,857	7,462,844

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

Balance Sheet

For the year ended 31 March 2020

	Group 2020 (£)	Group 2019 (£)
Fixed assets:		
Tangible assets	5,460,660	5,405,720
Total Fixed assets	5,460,660	5,405,720
Current assets:		
Debtors	1,240,355	1,646,166
Cash at bank and in hand	1,472,832	1,331,162
Total Current assets	2,713,187	2,977,328
Liabilities:		
Creditors falling due within one year	(661,990)	(900,759)
Net Current assets	2,051,197	2,076,569

"Leah's ability to form relationships has improved and her world has widened as a result of attending the activity days and accessing the short breaks. Leah has become more sociable and is happy to spend time with others and she appears generally more fulfilled."

Total assets less current liabilities	7,511,857	7,482,289
Creditors: falling due after more than one year	0	(19,445)
Net assets	7,511,857	7,462,844
The funds of the charity:		
Restricted income funds	623,465	643,730
Property Reserve	4,414,956	4,414,956
Unrestricted income funds	2,473,436	2,404,158
Total charity funds	7,511,857	7,462,844

The consolidated financial statements of KIDS, registration number 01346252

Reserves

Restricted Funds	£623,465
Designated Funds	£13,895
Capital Reserve Fund	£206,500
Property Reserve	£4,414,956
Funds held as a custodian/agent	£3,093
General Fund	£2,249,948
Total Unrestricted Funds	£6,888,392
Total Funds	£7,511,857

There are two types of Charitable Funds, those that are restricted in use, which can only be lawfully used for a specific charitable purpose and those that are unrestricted in their use, which can be spent for any charitable purposes of a charity. As part of the development of the Corporate Strategy for 2016-20, the Trustees developed a reserves policy that reflects the business needs. This is an agile policy and with internal/external changes to the charity the monetary level may change from year to year but the principles within the policy will remain the same including minimum cash balance and minimum level of unrestricted reserves to meet anticipated expenditure.

"KIDS creche has played a huge part in our lives by offering support and advice as having a disabled child has all been very new to me as no child comes with a label and instruction manual."

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Gifts & grants received

The list below provides details of all voluntary donations over £5,000 or above received during the past two financial years by the charity.

29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	Greystar	Sweet Factory
A D Charitable Trust	Groundwork UK	Swire Charitable Trust
Andrew Fleming	Hull and East Riding Charitable Trust	Tpt (UK) Ltd
Anonymous	Irwin Mitchell	The Adint Charitable Trust
Anonymous	JL Robertson (legacy)	The Albert Hunt Trust
Anonymous	Joe Fournier	The Band Trust
Anonymous	Jonathan Dennis	The Hobson Charity
APL	Mace Group	The Langham, London
Battersea Power Station Foundation	Masonic Charitable Foundation	The London Marathon Grant
BBC Children in Need	National Garden Scheme	The Morrisons Foundation
BBC Lifeline	National Lottery Awards for All	The O'Sullivan Family Charitable Trust
Canada Life	National Lottery Community Fund	_ The Roger & Douglas Turner Charitable
Community Foundation	Nexen Petroleum (CNOOC)	Trust
Clover Trust	Nick Gold	The Three Guineas Trust
Cooperative	Paperchase	The Walt Disney Company
Cranswick Country Foods	Patrick Doherty	Tula Trust
Credit Suisse	Peter John Davey (legacy)	UBSUK
Derwent London	Quartet Express Grant	Wandsworth Community Trust
E&V Export Ltd	Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity	Wandsworth Local Fund
Elizabeth & Prince Zaiger Charitable Trust	Ronald WM Pike (legacy)	White & Case
Ellis Campbell Charitable Trust	Sandra Charitable Trust	Youth Investment Fund
Ernst & Young	Selfish Mother	Young Londoners Fund
Eveson Charitable Trust	In memory of Sharon Raeburn	Youth Music Fund
Expat Foundation	Sir James Reckitt Charity	Zochonis Charitable Trust
Glebe Charitable Trust	Sir Walter St John's Educational Charity	Zurich Community Trust
Glencore	Sunrise Foundation	-
Goldman Sachs	St Andrew Holborn Charities	_

The Trustees wish to acknowledge with sincere gratitude all of the many donors and supporters whose generous financial help makes a considerable contribution to our ability to continue our work.

Company information

Chief Executive & Company Secretary

Caroline Stevens (Resigned 1 November 2019) Katie Ghose (Appointed 4 November 2019)

Trustees

Stephen Unwin - Chair Chris Stefani – Treasurer Kerry Crichlow Austin Frwin David de Paeztron **Richard Poarel** Lindsay Thomas Zoe Peden Steven Clarke Sam Bowerman Chris Blackhurst (Resigned 24 September 2019) Teresa Culverwell (Resigned 28 January 2020) Baroness Gabby Grist (Resigned 24 September 2019) Anna Hamilton (Appointed 20 May 2020) Mary-Rachel McCabe (Appointed 20 May 2020) Diana Sutton (Appointed 20 May 2020)

Patrons

Cherie Booth OC Rt Hon David Cameron David Furnish Elizabeth Hurley Sir Elton John Cathy Newman

Company number: 01346252 Charity number: 275936 Registered office: 7-9 Elliott's Place London N1 8HX

Ways to support KIDS

Your support makes our work with disabled children and young people possible. Here is how you can get involved in the coming year:

Make a donation

Your donation is absolutely invaluable to us as it enables us to continue providing vital services and support to disabled children, and to reach more families in need. You can support KIDS through a one off or monthly online donation. Alternatively you can set up payroll giving or donate by post.



Take part

From holding a bake sale or pub quiz to taking part in a marathon, there are lots of fun ways to fundraise for KIDS. Get involved and contact our events team on: events@kids. org.uk

Spare a few hours for KIDS

Your time and skills really do make a difference. For the various ways you can volunteer for KIDS, contact our events team.

Gift in your will

No matter how big or small, by leaving a gift in your will to KIDS, you will be supporting disabled children and young people for generations to come.



Partner with us

From raising money to raising awareness, your company can help us to support disabled children, young people and their families.





Keep in touch with us:







