



Stretford Children's Theatre

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1175334

2020 / 2021

Annual Report

Financial Year End 31.8.21

(Period covered 01.09.20-31.08.21)

Stretford Children's Theatre

Stretford Public Hall

Chester Road

Stretford

Manchester

M32 0LG

Email: stretfordchildrenstheatre@gmail.com

Twitter: [@SCT_Stretford](https://twitter.com/SCT_Stretford)

Website: www.stretfordchildrenstheatre.org.uk

Instagram: [stretfordchildrenstheatre](https://www.instagram.com/stretfordchildrenstheatre)



Mission Statement:

To inspire, educate and enrich our community by providing high quality accessible performing arts sessions and through public productions.

Our Vision:

To build a valued community organisation that is well-known for its high quality, inclusive, participant-led performing arts offer; an environment where everyone feels valued and supported to unlock talent and reach their potential.

Our Values:

Our values, below, inform our work and guide our attitudes and behaviours:

<u>Values</u>	<u>Behaviours and attitudes</u>
Creativity	Personal Responsibility
Diversity	Listening
Equality	Achievement
Inclusivity	Confidence
Respect	Inspiring
Honesty	Nurturing
Aspiration	Friendship
Ambition	Support
Collaboration	Positivity
Fun	

Our Aims:

- To provide fun, creative opportunities
- To be participant led
- To increase confidence, resilience and independence for participants
- To develop social and emotional skills to support mental health and well-being
- To develop confidence and leadership skills in order to enhance employability
- To develop skills, knowledge and appreciation of the arts
- To promote an understanding of the significance of the arts in our shared cultural heritage
- To encourage participants' connection to their community: a sense of belonging
- To provide a safe and healthy environment for all
- To work together with residents, community users, local authorities, voluntary and other organisations to be a positive part of the community
- To be a robust and sustainable organisation



Stretford Children's Theatre was originally founded in 1945 by Bertram H. Holland and was embedded in the community for more than 35 years. It ceased to exist in the early 1980's but was re-formed in 2015 by a small group of local people, and takes place at one of its original venues, Stretford Public Hall.

We are a small registered charity, with a volunteer Board, and our drama sessions are delivered by professional theatre practitioners, specialists at working with our different age groups.

Stretford Children's Theatre, is committed to providing affordable quality drama experiences for local children and young people, aged 4 upwards.

We think we meet our aims at every session we deliver and hope that everyone feels the same. If you feel differently please speak to the any member of the Board and highlight any concerns, you may have.

Our sections have done some great things this year which means everyone is working towards fulfilling the aim of making a positive contribution to society to the public benefit of all.

As a foundation CIO, we are governed by our Constitution. If you wish for a copy of the Constitution which details more information about our group's governance and rules, please ask any of the Board Members who can give you a copy, or it can be found on our website.

Our registered address is: Stretford Public Hall, Chester Road, Stretford, M32 0LG

Our Bank details are:

CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME194JQ

CAFCASH Account: Account Number: 00031787 Sort Code: 405240

Also,

Natwest, Trafford Park, Third Avenue, Trafford Park, Manchester, M17 1NW

- General Account Name: Stretford Children's Theatre
- General Account Number: 56057687 Sort Code: 010881
- Savings Account Name: Stretford Children's Theatre
- Savings Account Number: 56057695 Savings Sort Code: 010881



We have had no serious/reportable accidents or incidents this year.

Our public liability insurance is held with Markel Insurance.

All our drama practitioners are DBS checked and follow our child protection policy and procedures. All our policies can be found on our website.

We conduct risk assessments for each group, and each place we visit to ensure everybody's safety.

If you are able to support us any further, through donations, volunteering your time or offering specific skills that might be useful, please do get in touch via email at stretfordchildrenstheatre@gmail.com or get in touch through our Facebook page (Stretford Children's Theatre), or speak to any of the Board Members, volunteers, or leaders.



Group Structure 2020/2021

Our Board Members are:

Shelly Quinton-Hulme	- Chairperson until 21/07/2021
Michelle Calame-Bell	- Chairperson from 21/07/2021
Kirsty Thomas	- Treasurer
Kathleen Repper-Day	- Secretary
Ali Dunican	- Trustee until 11/11/2020
Janice Rendel	- Trustee
Annika Edge	- Trustee
Keith Broom	- Trustee
Jessica Loveday	- Trustee
Emma Towler	- Trustee
Andrew Appleby	- Trustee
Alison Rocca	- Trustee

No changes to the Board are known about at this time but strengthening our capabilities is on the agenda and this may mean increasing the number of Trustees to the Board.

If you need to contact any of the Board Members please email: stretfordchildrenstheatre@gmail.com stating who you would like the email to go to.

CAF Online Signatories are: Kirsty Thomas; Shelly Quinton-Hulme; Janice Rendel

Natwest Cheque Signatories are: Kirsty Thomas; Shelly Quinton-Hulme; Janice Rendel



Chairperson's Annual Report 2020 – 2021

This has been a challenging year for our group as we continued the struggles with Covid-19. We returned to face-to face meetings but with measures to keep the children covid secure [as much as possible] – we had the children sit in hoops [their adventure bubble] and filed them out on a knotted rope to help them judge their distance. After a few weeks the children had completely adapted to this way of class delivery and it was great to not have to continue on zoom all the time.



Thank you from us all for helping to make Stretford Children's Theatre work.






STRETFORD CHILDREN'S THEATRE

2020 / 2021


OUR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE



140
Members

53
of which New

CHILDREN PER AGE GROUP




42
Infants

44
Juniors

22
Seniors


GENDER



67%
Female

33%
Male

ETHNICITY




74%
White

11%
Mixed

8%
Other ethnic group

7%
Black

DISABILITY




5%

Members identify as disabled

STRETFORD CHILDREN'S THEATRE

2020 / 2021


CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED



140
Members

53
of which New Members


OUR SESSIONS



272
Sessions delivered

88
Volunteer hours


OUR PRODUCTIONS



2
Performances

30
Audience members

OUR STAFF




6
paid staff

9
volunteers

12
trustees

GETTING SOCIAL




166
Twitter followers

326
Facebook followers

136
Instagram followers

FINANCES



£25,200
Total income

48%

52%
From grants Earned income



Stretford Children's Theatre 2020/21 Annual Survey

We asked our participants and their parents/carers how they felt about Stretford Children's Theatre - this is what they said


98% would recommend



Stretford Children's Theatre to others

Describe SCT in 3 words

Fun (75%)
friendly
different
enjoyable
amazing
exciting
sociable
active
creative



91 % value

Stretford Children's Theatre and want to see it continue



96% parents/carers agree that SCT

- > is good value for money
- > is well organised
- > communicates effectively



What makes SCT different

- local
- welcoming
- inclusive
- friendly


Why did you join SCT?

- Improve social skills after lockdown
- Make new friends
- Gain confidence
- Improve drama skills
- Express myself




Benefits - SCT

- > Can contribute ideas and are listened to - 95%
- > Feel safe & positive - 91%
- > Increased confidence & social skills - 73%
- > Feel connected with young people in local community - 68%




New skills

- > Social skills: team working, listening, collaboration
- > Soft skills: increased confidence & concentration
- > Performance skills: improvisation, remembering lines, script writing, voice projection, accents, dance, mime



- community-focused
- more freedom
- mix of learning





Treasurers Report and Annual Accounts - 2020/21

This year saw continued uncertainty around Covid restrictions which impacted the financial section of the group. Despite this we were able to continue to provide the sessions both online and within the hall for the entire year.

This year has passed in a complete whirl and whilst there were some downs the overriding story of it has been overwhelmingly positive, the funding received in 2020/21 has provided us with peace of mind and allowed us to look further than the finances.

Financial challenges 21/22

- ★ As we adjust to a post Covid society we look to ensure our ability to continue as a group. We will start the year in great financial shape having met our reserves for the first time ever since opening. The uncertainty around anything Covid related we hope to keep our doors open.
- ★ Cash flow will always remain a challenge for us but if we remain financially vigilant we will not only maintain the groups but will have the potential for growth.

Opening Balance	£ 12,296
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Total Income

Memberships	£ 11,032
Grants	£ 15,893
Donations	£ 318
Gift Aid	
2019-20	£ 1,976
2020-21	£ 2,187

Total Income	£ 31,405
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Total Costs

Hall Hire	£ 1,090
Session Leaders and Manager	£ 18,860
Group Expenditure	£ 7,101

Total Cost	£ 27,051
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Closing Balance	£ 16,650
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The closing balance as at 31st August is £16,650 of which £4,143 is protected funds. Protected funds are monies that have to be spent in accordance to the funding bid. We will make plans to utilise these funds as per the agreement in due course. The unprotected balance as at 31st August is £12,507 which is in line with the closing balance from 2019/20.

Gift Aid

In August 2020 we prepared the Gift Aid claim for the period September 2019 until August 2020. The funds were not received until October 2020 which falls into the financial year of 2020/21. As we complete our accounts in a receipts and payments format we have received two sets of Gift Aid claims this year (prior year and current year). Gift Aid is a UK tax incentive that enables tax-effective giving by individuals to charities in the United Kingdom.

Our funders – putting the FUN into FUNDING!

2020/21 saw increased purchases of extraordinary items (IT hardware and software and Covid consumables) which required us to apply for external funding from various funders. This year we have received a total amount of £15,893 from;

- Trafford Housing Trust £9,913. This was used for ordinary running costs in the year and is fully closed out.
- Trafford Council Digital Grant £4,980. This was used for the extraordinary IT purchases required to help us to take our sessions online. This is now fully closed out.
- John Thaw Grant £1,000. This hasn't been used as the majority of our costs have been covered by funding for the current year so we're able to take this funding into the new financial year.



Reserves

These are calculated as follows;

Amounts of unprotected cash available divided by the sum of monthly running costs – which gives us the number of months we are able to operate should no further income be forthcoming.

Expenditure	Projected cost per annum
Hall Hire	£ 3,300
Session Leaders	£ 11,400
Session Management	£ 1,500
Insurance	£ 350
Website Hosting	£ 158
Covid costs	£ 170
OSM/Go Cardless	£ 360
Bank charges	£ 96
Storage charges	£ 600
Subscriptions	£ 60
Total	£ 17,994

Based on the figures above (these are based on a 'normal' year) our monthly running costs are £1,499.50. Our reserves policy was agreed in 2019 and is located within the body of our financial handbook (available on our website). The policy states that we should hold 12 weeks (one academic full term) reserves in our Natwest account, this would require £4,498.50 and is something we worked towards during 2020/21. As at 31/08/2021 we had met and held these reserves in our Natwest account.

Ways to donate

Give as you earn/Donate as you earn

As an employee you can set up a direct payment from your gross pay to Stretford Children's Theatre under a scheme called 'Give as You Earn' – ask your HR or Payroll Manager whether your company has signed up to CAF Give As You Earn and if so, how you can join the payroll giving scheme.

Amazon Smile

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk> – SCT was set up with Amazon Smile where you buy from Amazon and they donate 0.5% of the net purchase price with every eligible purchase.



**Annual Report accepted at the Annual General Meeting
of Stretford Children's Theatre
on 22nd September 2021**

Signed:



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name: **Stretford Childrens Theatre**

On accounts for the year ended

31.8.2021

Charity no (if any)

1175334

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

10/2/2022

Name:

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

(if any):

Address:

202 Park Rd

Stretford

M32 8EB

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

1) 10 Netnerd payments but only 9 invoices on file
2) No receipt for Merkel Insurance paid 8/2/21