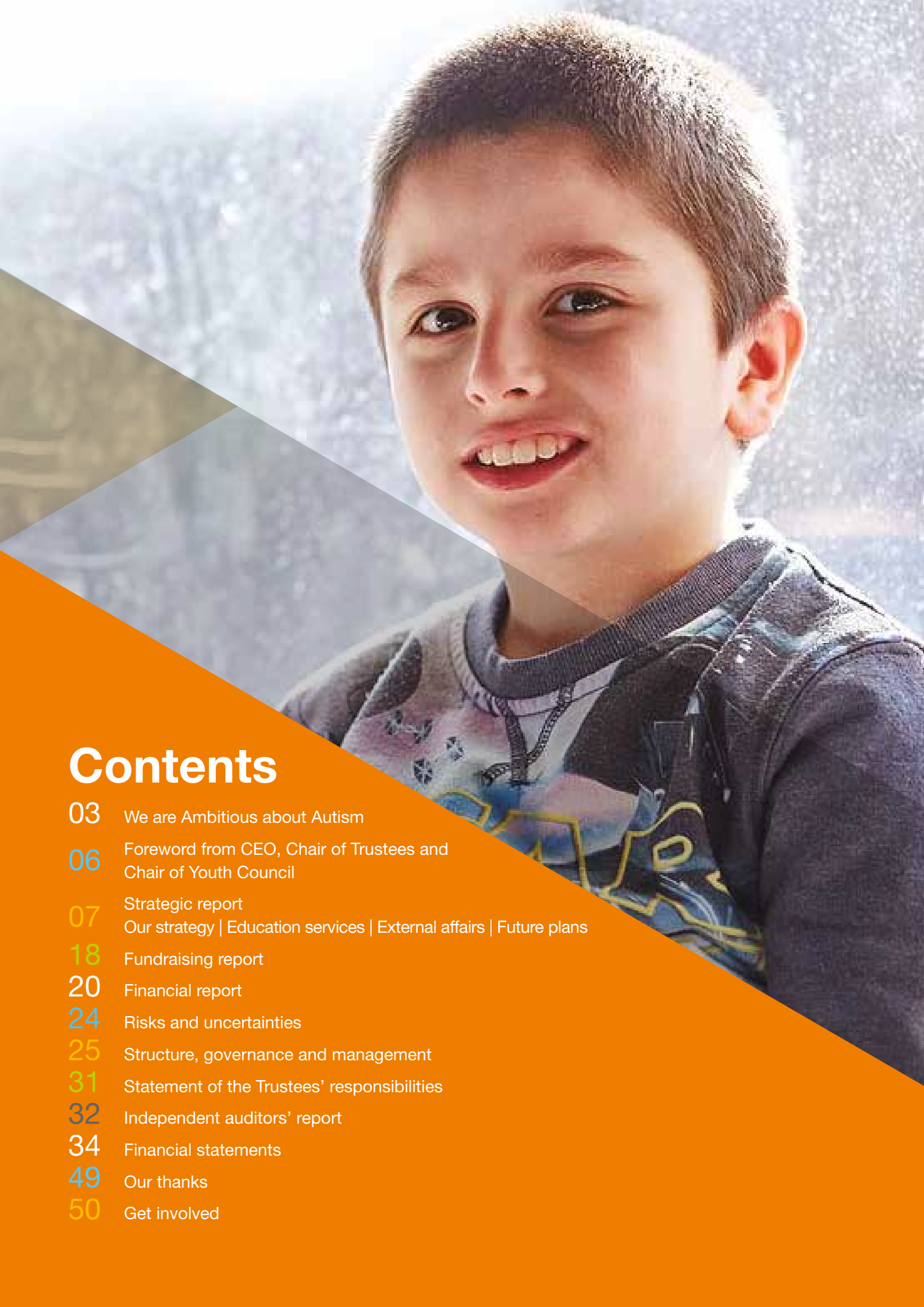




Making the ordinary possible

for children and young
people with autism

Annual Report and Accounts 2015/16



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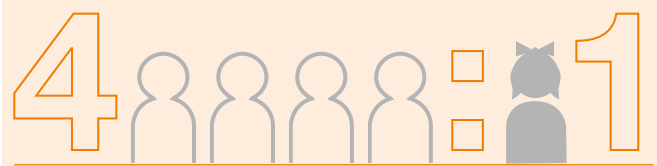
We are Ambitious about Autism

Autism is a lifelong developmental disability which affects **1 in 100** children and young people in the UK. It affects the way a person communicates and how they experience the world around them. Currently, four times as many boys as girls are diagnosed with autism.

No one person with autism is the same. If you've met one person with autism, you've met one person with autism.

Children and young people with autism face enormous barriers due to a lack of understanding of their needs and specialist education and support. We exist to challenge the status quo and make the ordinary possible, for children and young people with autism.

4x as many boys as girls



are diagnosed with autism

Autism affects

1 in 100

children and young people in the UK

Children and young people with autism are left behind

Our recent research showed

20% of children with autism  have been formally excluded from school in a 12 month period.

40% have been  informally excluded.

40-63% of children with autism have been bullied at school. 

Fewer than **1 in 4**  school leavers with autism access education or training beyond school.

Only **15%** of adults with autism are in full time employment. 

 **90%** of adults with autism remain entirely dependent on care, or their families for the rest of their lives.



Daniel's story

"My name is Daniel. I was diagnosed with autistic spectrum condition (ASC) when I was three years old. I prefer to call it ASC and not ASD (autism spectrum disorder) as I don't consider my autism to be a disorder; it's simply who I am, or at least part of who I am. If you removed my autism it would be like removing my blue eyes or my love of chocolate.

"I am currently training to be a chef in college and working part of the time in a café, with people with learning disabilities two days a week, when I am not at college. Some things can be hard, but basically I'm just an ordinary person trying to live my life, and hoping other people will like me. I guess you feel the same? **So we aren't so different after all.**"



Meet Jack*

Jack is a 20-year-old young man with autism and learning difficulties. He is non-verbal and loves being active and being part of a team. Jack attends our Ambitious College where his Job Coach secured him work experience at the RAF Museum. With our guidance, staff at the RAF Museum adapted to Jack's needs and Jack was able to adjust to his new environment at his own pace. Within a few weeks he went from completing a single task in five minute sessions, away from the busy main office, to working independently for an hour and a half, alongside his colleagues. **His mum is hopeful that he will be able to find a job in the future.**



*Name has been changed to protect the individual.

Our vision

A world where the ordinary **IS** the **EVERYDAY** experience of children and young people with autism, enabling them to learn, thrive and achieve.

Our mission

To make the ordinary possible for children and young people with autism.

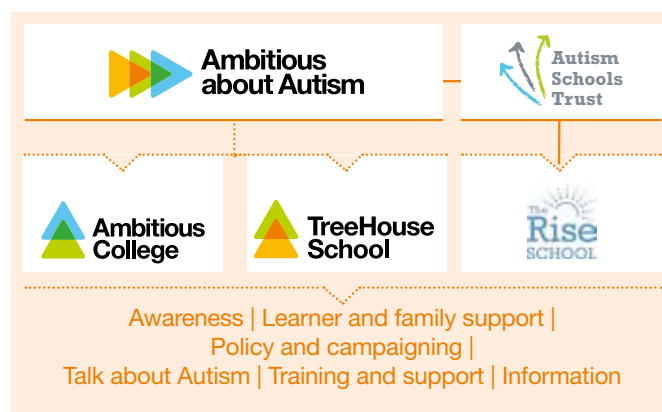
About us

Ambitious about Autism is the national charity for children and young people with autism. We provide services, raise awareness and understanding, and campaign for change. Through TreeHouse School and Ambitious College we offer specialist education and support. We set up the Autism Schools Trust (AST), in partnership with Dimensions, to spread the expertise gained from our work to reach more children and young people. This led to the AST opening the Rise School in September 2014.

Our values

Children and young people with autism are at the centre of all that we do. That's why:

- **We are ambitious** – investing in our staff team to make sure our work has the biggest impact on children and young people with autism.
- **We value difference** – we value difference and, given how unique every experience of autism really is, we work hard to develop personalised solutions for the young people we work with.
- **We are team players** – in how we work within the organisation, with children and young people, their families and with our partners.
- **We are open** to new ideas, in how we work and how we make decisions.
- **We are experts** – we believe in the talent of our staff and bring together their expertise, and evidence of what works, to challenge the status quo for children and young people with autism.



Foreword

It has been a year of amazing progress for Ambitious about Autism.

We continued to develop Ambitious College, London's first day college for young people with complex autism. Our TreeHouse School continued to thrive and model how primary and secondary age children with complex autism can learn, thrive and achieve. Meanwhile, The Rise School opened its brand new building and continues to go from strength to strength.

We have grown our national reach through our information, training, youth participation and policy work. We delivered training to over a third of colleges in England, as part of our Succeeding at College project, and our new website has been viewed over 1.1 million times by families, professionals and young people with autism.

We look toward 2016/17 with real enthusiasm. Our Ambitious College will be fully operational in its first permanent campus. Our schools will continue to grow and develop and we will be launching our new schools campaign.

None of this work would have been possible without the ongoing support of our partners and supporters, staff, trustees and governors. Without you, we would not be able to realise our shared ambition, which is no more than to live in a world where the ordinary **IS** possible for children and young people with autism.

This is an exciting time for our organisation and it is fantastic to have you all on this journey with us.



Jolanta Lasota
Chief Executive



John Constantine
Chair of our Board of Trustees



Jonathan Andrews
Chair of the Youth Council
Ambitious about Autism

The Youth Council launched its first campaign 'Employ Autism: From School and College to Work'. Young people from across the UK told us about the lack of preparation at school and college for employment and the struggles they had in finding work. For every person with autism in employment, there are six people with autism who are not.

We hosted our launch event, in partnership with Santander, for young people on the spectrum and employers. A range of employers from many different industries including banks, law firms, professional services, the Civil Service and charities attended. Young people attended sessions on employability skills hosted by organisations like CareTrade UK. Lots of activities have already taken place, including our Autism Exchange Programme, in partnership with the Civil Service.

It's been a brilliant year and we look forward to building on the campaign and reaching more young people with autism next year!



Strategic report

Our strategy

Ambitious about Autism's four strategic objectives in 2015/16:



- Develop **more and better services** that meet the needs of children and young people with autism effectively;



- **Increase awareness and understanding** of the needs of children and young people with autism and how best to meet these needs;



- Ensure **policy at national and local level** takes into account the needs of children and young people with autism;



- Ensure Ambitious about Autism has the **resources and capacity** to deliver impact.

We outline our progress and impact against the following core strategic headings in this report:

- Education Services
- External Affairs



Education services

More and better services

In 2015/16, Ambitious about Autism grew its education services and spent a record £9.7m. £8.5m of this was funded through income received for delivering these services, with £1.2m being funded from voluntary income from our generous supporters and our reserves.

Good quality services are essential for children and young people with autism, but parents often tell us they are in short supply and not able to meet the needs of young people. This year we were thrilled to be able to grow our services for children and young people with autism.

Early Years

It's **essential that children** with autism **receive early diagnosis and assessment**, so their parents and carers can access the right support. This year we piloted a new early years assessment service, which included a transdisciplinary assessment for children, followed by training for the parents. The programme was a great success and we plan to continue this in future years.

'I left the training feeling amazing. It's the best thing I've been to and I've been to a lot.'

Parent who attended our Early Years training

'Absolutely brilliant, I've been inspired by the trainer and I'm much more positive about the future.'

Parent who attended our Early Years training

TreeHouse School

TreeHouse School is a non-maintained special school, for children and young people with autism aged 3-19, based in the heart of a thriving North London community. It provides pupils with specialist education and support, to enable them to learn, thrive and achieve.

In 2015/16 we continued to offer a rich, broad and balanced curriculum and remained focused on the personalised outcomes for every child and young person in our school.

Preparing learners for the next stage of their education is one of our core priorities, and we developed and ran our Ambitious College link programme, to help our pupils prepare for life after school and, in particular, in further education.

Pupils in the sixth form continued to develop a range of skills through our vocational pathways. As part of our Digital Media Pathway, pupils storyboarded, filmed, edited and produced short films for our ACTION! Film Festival.

The future

Being well prepared for adulthood is an important outcome for all of our pupils; in particular those aged 14-19 who are approaching their final stage of education at TreeHouse School.

In 2015/16, we hosted a Transition Event with service providers, pupils and parents. This event provided our young people with information on a variety of educational, employment and leisure opportunities for when they leave school.

Pupils supported the event by working at the welcome desk, serving refreshments and managing the cloakroom service. 72% of parents felt that the range of services available at the event was good or better, with 79% saying the event was appropriate for their son or daughter.

“What a lovely event! Great people and informative information. Well done!”

“Wow! Lots of pupils attended! Great to see.”

Parents who attended our Transition event.



Quote from Year 14 Graduation

“Thank you to the school. And the parents that set it up; we love you and will miss you.”

Eli and Claudia



Shelter shop

My work experience at a local charity shop.

Sam* is 19 years old. He has been working at Shelter for six months and, during his work experience, has developed greater confidence, independence and a range of transferable employability skills such as: timekeeping and attendance; teamwork; customer service; pricing and merchandising stock.

Sam has improved his maths skills whilst completing tasks like stock taking. He has developed his independence and worked entirely without support. This has enabled him to complete tasks and start new tasks without assistance. He has thrived and developed brilliant customer service skills, which has given him greater confidence to access work in the community in the future.



*Name has been changed to protect the individual



- TreeHouse School featured in the BBC documentary, My Curious Documentary, which was aired on BBC1.



- Our Speech and Occupational Therapy Team won the Group Special Award at the London Children of Courage Awards 2016.



- Our wildlife garden won The City Bridge Trust Growing Localities Award.



- Our local MP, Catherine West, came to visit the school, met our learners and heard about our work to make the ordinary possible for children and young people with autism.



Work experience

‘The work experience has been great. My son likes putting on his work clothes and always remembers which day it is on. Seeing him at his placement was really encouraging. It helped us think about the future and gave us confidence that he could have a different future than we had expected.’ TreeHouse School Parent

‘We are so delighted to be working with TreeHouse School and look forward to welcoming some of the pupils to complete work experience in our store. This is not just a fantastic opportunity for the pupils but also for the colleagues and managers within the store. Having seen the amazing work that the school does for its pupils first hand, it’s wonderful to provide further learning and development opportunities for the pupils in a store environment such as Sainsbury’s. We are really excited about the prospect of helping such a great project within our local community.’

Sainsbury’s Muswell Hill

Ambitious College

Our research shows that **only 1 in 4 young people with autism progress past school to any form of education or training**. This is simply unacceptable. Following work by Ambitious about Autism on the changes in the Children and Families Act, young people with autism are now entitled to educational support up to 25 years old. This gave us the exciting opportunity to open London's first specialist day college for young adults with complex autism aged 16-25.

Ambitious College has been temporarily located in North London (Barnet and Southgate College) and West London (Southall Campus, Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College). This year we secured permanent partners for our North London and West London campuses – the College of North Haringey, Enfield and North East London (CONEL) and West Thames College, Isleworth. We have moved into Pears Campus at CONEL and began re-furbishing our campus at Isleworth in September. Our co-located model enables our learners to access mainstream learning and social opportunities, whilst receiving the specialist support and curriculum they need.

The curriculum is based on the four Preparing for Adulthood pathways: employment, independent living, community inclusion and health.

Preparing learners for a rewarding and fulfilling adult life underpins everything we do at Ambitious College, which is why a large part of our curriculum is delivered in the community through practical learning. We support learners to develop the skills they will need to live as independently as they can, and make activities, such as shopping, cooking, travel, training and accessing leisure services, an integral part of our curriculum. We also offer learners the opportunity to develop their employability skills and to access work experience. We do this by forging employer partnerships in the local areas where our campuses are situated.

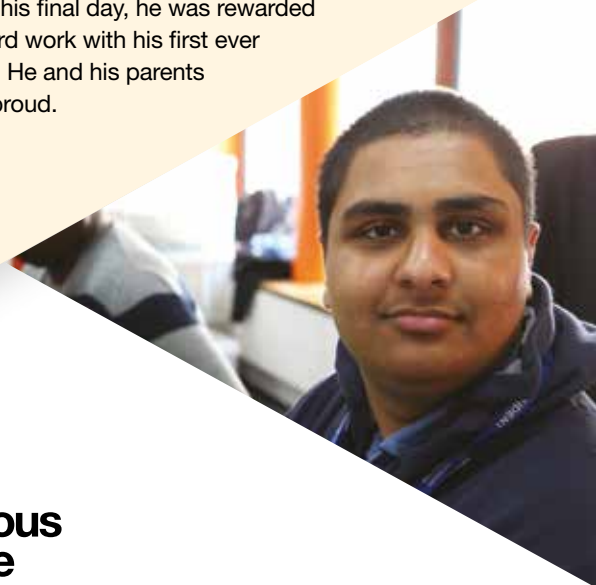
A wide range of work experience placements were accessed by learners, including the RAF Museum, the British Red Cross, Hobbycraft and Barnet and Southgate Library, to name a few.

- **Christmas 2015** - Ambitious College took a stall at the Enfield Christmas Market, where learners sold their art work which they had created with our Artist in Residence.
- **May 2016** - Tom*, one of our first year learners, had some of his artwork displayed as part of a wider art exhibition at CHI London.
- **June 2016** - Celebration of Achievement Events took place on both campuses, attended by learners and their family and friends.
- **30 June 2016** - We moved to our new North London permanent home, the Pears Campus at the College of North Haringey, Enfield and North East London.



Michael's* story

Michael is 20 years old. He started work experience at London Linen in May. He met his boss Dean who showed him around the yard and explained what he would be required to do. Michael worked hard ensuring that the yard was spotless and free from rubbish. On his final day, he was rewarded for all his hard work with his first ever pay cheque. He and his parents were really proud.



**Ambitious
College**

*Name has been changed to protect the individual



Giving Ewan* a voice

Ewan started at Ambitious College in September 2015. At the start, Ewan couldn't use communication aids independently and make his needs known.

Our Speech and Language Therapist identified that Ewan would benefit from using an IT-based communication system. Working with the local NHS Communication Aid Centre, they organised an assessment and agreed to fund a communication aid for Ewan. Ewan now has a communication aid for life. When he leaves college, he will continue to be supported by the Centre.

This support has enabled him to stay in the classroom for longer periods of time and to make choices of his own. Ewan has a Tea Making Programme App on his iPad, which has supported him to develop the skills to make a cup of tea on his own.

Ewan's family have been supported by us so he can use the communication aid at home. Consistency is key. Ewan is much happier and settled at home. Staff attribute this to Ewan being encouraged to communicate, through his communication aid, when he is anxious or stressed.



*Name has been changed to protect the individual

Ambitious Futures Appeal: Ambitious College

We need to secure £4.4m of voluntary income to support the development and establishment of Ambitious College and our wider employability, transition, and learner and family support work.

By the end of 2015/16 we had secured £3.3m of voluntary income towards our Ambitious Futures Appeal target of £4.4m, an appeal that has been running since 2011. This includes lead gifts from Pears Foundation and The Garfield Weston Foundation amongst many other generous supporters.



"Denying a young person with autism the right to continue their education beyond school is unjust."

Trevor Pears CMG, Executive Chair, Pears Foundation

"As a parent of a child with autism, I know how difficult it is to secure the right education. I support Ambitious College for giving young people and their families a lifeline that can be trusted."

Nick Hornby, Author, Vice President

"I am enthusiastic in my support for Ambitious College as the charity moves forward to enable learners with autism to gain the skills and further education they need to lead more independent adult lives."

Rt. Hon. John Bercow MP Speaker of the House of Commons and Parent Patron

"It is unacceptable that less than 1 in 4 young people with autism progress to any form of education beyond school."

Jon Snow, Channel 4 Presenter and Ambassador

External affairs

In 2015/16, Ambitious about Autism spent £1.2m on delivering its External Affairs activities, of which £0.4m was funded through income received for delivering these services, and a further £0.8m being funded from voluntary income from our generous supporters and reserves.

Training and support

Taking our expertise out to the country, through our training and support programme, is another way we can have the widest possible impact and change the lives of more children and young people with autism.

We deliver a set of training courses for both parents and professionals, and offer a bespoke outreach and consultancy service.

Some of the people who received our training

- Santander, Global Banking Company
- UK Government:
 - Rt Hon John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons
 - Department for Work and Pensions
- Harrow College
- Solar House School
- North Hertfordshire College
- And we trained specialists from other countries including the Thai Education Authority



‘A really interesting day which was an excellent opportunity to share experiences and examples of good practice with other professionals.’

Professional who attended our training

We also deliver training programmes in London and the east of England as one of the Autism Education Trust (AET) training hubs. We trained over 1,000 school and college staff this year.

The Succeeding at College project, funded by the Department for Education, supported the aims of the Children and Families Act by assisting more young people with autism to successfully move from school to college. This partnership greatly improved access to post-school education for young people with autism. Half of the young people moved into further education during 2014 and 2015, with others moving into specialist post-16 provision.

1,313 people received training this year

94% of people who received our training said it was helpful

94% of parents and carers would recommend Ambitious about Autism

91% of professionals say they have implemented their learning in their workplace

We trained staff in over a third of the colleges in England



'I'm getting on really well at College. All my old friends are here...college is a really good place. You get to learn more skills here and you get to do exams here...when I first heard about college I was really nervous, but when I came on a link....I thought it was OK. They show you all around the college.'

Young person supported through the Succeeding at College project.

Our Ambitious Learner and Family Support team provided support to parents and carers, including those whose children attend our services.

The families of children and young people with autism face many challenges, one of which is to quickly develop an expertise in how to support their son or daughter through a maze of legislation, services, support, unfair treatment and even discrimination.

We held a series of conferences and events, provided face-to-face support to individuals and families and expertise. We also ran a service which provides counselling to parents and carers and provided information online, through our website and online autism community, which is the largest in the UK.

We plan to continue to expand and develop this support, to enable parents and carers to navigate the system in a time of change, so their children secure help early.

We provided support to families 125 times via home visits, parent surgery appointments and talks at TreeHouse School, The Rise School and Ambitious College.

We ran three seminars covering Education, Health and Care Plans, The Care Act and Transition to Adult Life. They reached over 420 parents, carers and professionals.



Increase awareness & understanding

If we're going to create real and lasting change for children and young people with autism, we cannot do it alone. That's why we reach out to people to join us, to make the ordinary possible. In 2015/16, we generated significant media coverage, and reached a record number of children and young people, families and professionals viewing our website.



We launched a new website, a hub of information about autism for families and professionals and a space for people to share their stories. Our website had a total of 1.1m views, a 274% increase on last year.

We engaged with over 11,340 champions who took campaign actions and participated in fundraising events, as well as supporting our wider work.

We run the UK's largest online autism community, Talk about Autism. It's a safe space to talk about anything related to autism and is supported and moderated by our community champions who have lived experiences of autism. There are now 10,611 members of our community.

We reached even greater numbers via social media. We now have 11,000 Facebook likes and 22,000 Twitter followers.

We worked in partnership with the UK media, generating articles in national print and broadcast outlets and achieved hundreds of pieces of media coverage.



Policy and participation

We continued to influence policy and practice to help improve outcomes for children and young people with autism. This is critical during a time of change, particularly as we see the Children and Families Act implemented. We involved young people in shaping this work and ensured their views were heard by policy and decision makers. We ran seminars for parents and professionals about important policy changes.

Influencing policy

We launched our first ever youth-led campaign called Employ Autism. This resulted in over 50 pieces of media coverage, including an interview on the Lorraine Show and a 'Letter to Editor' from broadcaster Jon Snow. We had over 3,000,000 impressions on social media and nearly 1,000 people tweeting using #EmployAutism on World Autism Awareness Day.

We launched our Every Teacher campaign, in partnership with the National Autistic Society. We called for the inclusion of specific training on autism to be included in initial teacher training. This resulted in a commitment from the Secretary of State for Education, Nicky Morgan MP, to train all teachers in autism as a core part of teacher training. This is a major route to change as 70% of children and young people with autism are taught in mainstream schools.



Youth Patrons attended party conferences and engaged with politicians, influencers and media, locally and nationally.

myVoice

myVoice is a project for 16-25 year olds with autism, funded by the Department of Health. It's all about connecting young people with autism with other young people, and helping them to have a say in their local communities.

myVoice volunteers undertook visits to health and social care settings in order to review them and give feedback. Young people with autism frequently receive poor services, advice and support because the services do not meet their needs and are inaccessible. As part of this work, Local Authorities across London have listened and responded to young people's feedback and have offered young people new opportunities to influence commissioning of health services. Our Youth Consultants were involved in the design of a new Information and Advice Service for disabled children, young people and families.

Fifty eight volunteers hosted online chats and created engaging new content for the site. We hosted two online chats per month and shared the outcomes of the chat with thousands of young people on the site, by creating infographics and blogs. The myVoice website had over 60,000 unique views and our YouTube channel had over 50,000 views.

We have been training young people on governance to help prepare them for roles on boards and committees. This means that young people with autism will have a say in decisions that affect them. It's also a great way for them to develop skills they need for work.





Autism Exchange programme

The Autism Exchange programme looks to explore the barriers to employment facing young people with autism aged 18-24.

It is led in collaboration with the Civil Service. We piloted the programme with the Department for Work and Pensions and HMRC and it was a great success. Young people with autism undertook work experience placements across the Civil Service and, in return, Ambitious about Autism ran autism awareness training for their staff.

Janet Hill CBE, Programme Director, Civil Service Disability Inclusion Team, said:

“I am so pleased that our Autism Exchange Programme, delivered with our partner, Ambitious About Autism, continues to grow in strength and that the Civil Service has been able to offer work insight experience to more young people this year.

“It is heartening, too, that companies from other sectors are keen to learn from our approach, so that more young people might be helped in future.

“In the Civil Service we aspire to be the most inclusive employer in the UK and, as such, we need to attract the widest range of talent. Many talented people with autism have specific skills that the Civil Service needs, and we know through this partnership that we offer an environment in which these young people can really thrive.”



Sadie's story

Since joining the myVoice project Sadie has received training, completed practice reviews and has conducted her first inspection of a dental practice. Sadie has enjoyed it greatly; it has made her feel more confident and positive about autism.

Sadie says:

“It is good to feel like part of a community of people with autism and it is nice to feel like you have the power to improve things for people with autism”.

Future Plans

Our Chief Executive, Jolanta Lasota, looks to the future

Since Ambitious about Autism was founded by a group of parents in 1997, we have come a long way.

We are more ambitious and determined than ever to reach our goal – to make the ordinary possible for children and young people with autism.

We are single-minded in achieving these goals, but we need to raise more money, so we can make this a reality, and we need your help to do this.



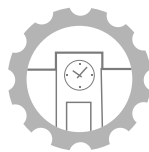
Jolanta Lasota
Chief Executive,
Ambitious about Autism

Our goals

To work in collaboration with young people, parents and carers, local authorities and partner organisations, to improve outcomes for children and young people with autism, by delivering a leading range of specialist services whilst working via training, development and influencing activities, to improve the environment for children and young people with autism and their families.



Develop more and better services



- Continue to develop our TreeHouse School.
- Develop the North and West London campuses of Ambitious College.
- Through the Autism Schools Trust, develop The Rise School and consider further school proposals.



- Provide training and development services for more patients, professionals and educational settings.
- Extend and enhance our support services for learners and their families.
- Secure positive outcomes, transitions and destinations for the children and young people we support.

Improve policy, practice and participation

- Raise awareness and understanding of autism and Ambitious about Autism through the media, our digital channels, and our campaigns.
- Continue our successful myVoice project for 16-25 year olds with autism.
- Extend and enhance young people's, parents and carers' participation, particularly through online advocacy and campaigning.



- Expand information provided via our website to reach more parents.
- Support parents and carers through the transition to the new Children and Families Act and the revised Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.
- Launch our new schools campaign.
- Expand our Autism Exchange programme.

Fundraising report

The difference that Ambitious about Autism is able to make depends heavily on the funds it generates through its fundraising. Thanks to the generosity of our partners and supporters, in 2015/16 we saw a **19% increase in our voluntary income over the previous year**, including government grants for our External Affairs activities. Given an increasingly challenging funding environment, this was an absolute lifeline in helping us to continue our work to improve the lives of children and young people with autism.

Our growth was driven by a continued and **successful focus on our £4.4m appeal**, to establish Ambitious College and give young people with autism the chance to move from school to college and so improve their life chances. By the end of 2015/16, this appeal had reached 75% of its target. For the next two years, we will be working hard to secure the last £1.1m - to finish the appeal and secure the long-term sustainability of Ambitious College.

The Department of Health funded our successful myVoice project for 16-25 year olds with autism. The project supported young people to create content, meet other young people with autism and have a say in their local communities. **The Department for Education funded our Succeeding at College project**, which improved access to post-school education for young people with autism.

At the heart of support for the Ambitious College appeal in 2015/16 was a lead gift from Pears Foundation and generous gifts from Garfield Weston, the Wolfson Foundation, Leathersellers' Company, Thompson Family Charitable Trust, City Bridge Trust, Sir Jules Thorn Trust, Baily Thomas Charitable Trust, the Band Trust and many other individuals and organisations.

TalkTalk (the UK provider of fixed line broadband, voice telephony, television and mobile services) and Rapha (who are dedicated to creating the finest cycling clothing and accessories in the world) **remained committed to making a difference to children and young people with autism, by investing in Ambitious about Autism's national programmes.** TalkTalk raised over £300,000, through their annual Digital Heroes gala event, while Rapha led what is becoming one of Britain's major challenge events: cycling from Manchester to London in one day.

“

“Thank you so much for the brilliant support...it's always a privilege to run for Team Ambitious and yesterday was no exception.”

Vitality 10K Runner





Along with some of the UK's household name businesses, the charity was pleased to attract support from individuals, schools, faith groups, organisations and students across the UK who undertook all manner of fundraising activities to support our work.

A number of our partners also generously donated gifts-in-kind. This included TalkTalk providing Ambitious about Autism's internet connectivity and DLA Piper (the global law firm) and Macfarlanes giving essential legal advice, which ensured the charity operated efficiently and effectively.

Voluntary income, **from whatever source**, is vital and enables Ambitious about Autism to make the ordinary possible **for children and young people with autism**.

In 2015/16, our funding partners ensured we could deliver services that improved the employability of the young people we work with; Barbara Ward Children's Foundation gave our school pupils the opportunity to experience residential trips away from home and horse riding; BBC Children in Need funded our Family Support Worker; The Thompson Family Charitable Trust supported our pupils to enjoy indoor skiing at an indoor facility near TreeHouse School. Clothworkers' Foundation invested in a pilot for an early years assessment service for children and young people with autism. BBC Children in Need continued their long-standing support of our work by funding our services for families and siblings of children and young people with autism. Give It Away Ltd continued to support our youth participation work, giving young people with autism a voice in shaping the issues that affect their lives.

We are also grateful to the large number of loyal supporters, challenge event participants, committed givers and Ambitious Friends, who continued to make regular gifts which have been crucial in allowing us to plan and deliver our vital services.

Ambitious about Autism remains confident that a growing number of people, businesses, trusts and foundations are, and always will be, motivated to improve the life chances of every child with autism. Making the ordinary possible, for these young people, is what inspires us and our supporters and will keep us all working hard to realise their ambitions.

2015/16

saw an increase in voluntary income, including government grants received for our External Affairs activities.

Financial report:

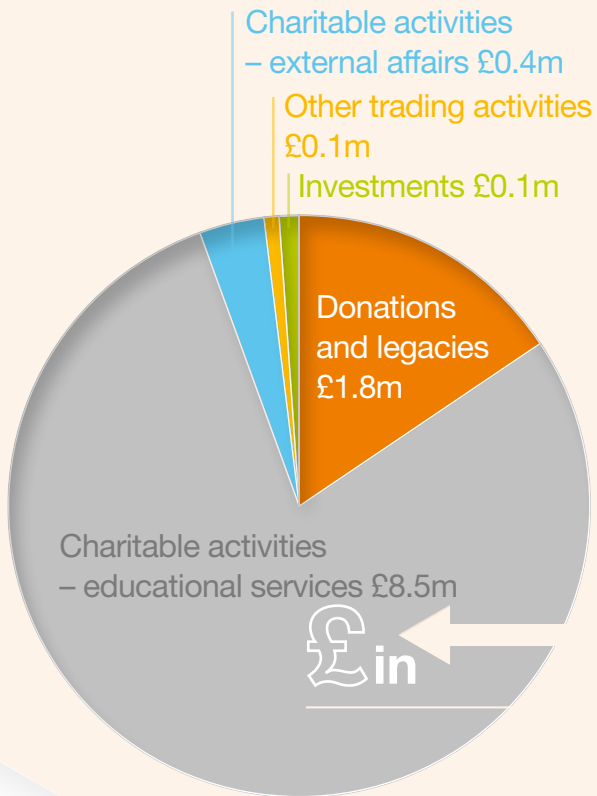
a year of growth and investment



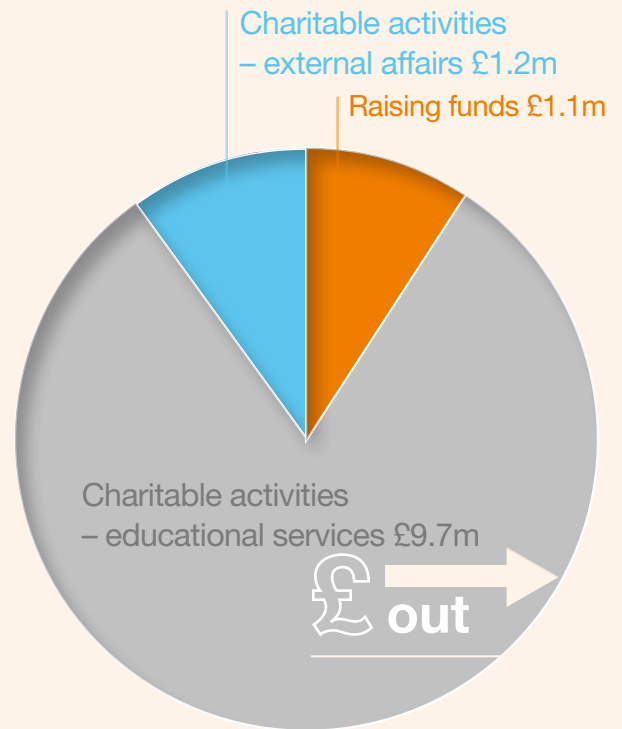
**Ambitious
about Autism**

Financial report

Where our money comes from:



How our money was spent:



Financial report

Overview

2015/16 represented a year of growth and investment for Ambitious about Autism. The Board decided to make a planned and proactive programme of investment in TreeHouse School, Ambitious College, The Rise School, plus people and infrastructure, in order to create a strong platform for the growing organisation. It has also been an exciting year for our college, which has been in its 'start-up' and development phase. This has been supported with funds from voluntary income via our appeal. The net expenditure for the year of £1.3m was funded predominantly by designated reserves, set aside by Trustees in previous years for these particular purposes, so there was minimal impact on the charity's free reserves this year. Note 19b provides a breakdown of how the designated funds were utilised.

Our total income for the year was £10.8m, greater than the income generated in 2014/15, of £9.7m, as a result of growth in the services we provide. Our overall expenditure also increased from £9.7m in 2014/15, to £12.0m in 2015/16, as a result of growth and the one-off investment in TreeHouse School, The Rise School, the College and infrastructure.

As a result of this overall position, net assets at 31 March 2016, were £7.4m, compared with net assets of £8.7m at 31 March 2015. Long term loans for the Pears National Centre for Autism Education and the Ambitious College project totalled £6.2m in comparison to £6.6m in 2015.

During 2015/16 the Trustees have chosen to change the use of the fixed asset designated fund, so that this designated fund now represents the value of unrestricted funds invested in fixed assets net of loans used to purchase them, which are not by the nature of fixed assets readily available for other purposes. This has resulted in £0.9m being transferred out of designated reserves and into free reserves, resulting in year end free reserves of £2.4m and designated funds of £4.7m, after the £0.7m was spent from designated funds to invest in services and infrastructure.

This increase in free reserves is solely the result of an accounting policy change and affects disclosure only. The underlying financial position remains broadly the same as in the prior year.

Investment policy

The charity's investment policy was approved by the Board of Trustees in July 2016. It aims to produce the best financial return within an acceptable level of risk. The risk profile is agreed with the investment manager and is regarded as medium. This policy is reviewed at least annually. The Trustees have set a target to exceed the returns available from bank deposits, over a 5 year period, and this has been achieved over the term.



Financial report (continued)

Reserves policy

Free reserves exclude restricted funds, designated funds and any parts of unrestricted funds not readily available such as long term fixed assets. At Ambitious about Autism, we hold free reserves to mitigate against risks resulting from unexpected drops in fundraising income, a downturn in pupil and learner numbers, or unexpected short term increases in expenditure. Our reserves policy is reviewed by the Trustees annually and was last reviewed in September 2016.

Based upon an evaluation of income and expenditure risks and working capital requirements, in light of planned growth and in the context of the decision to recognise all fixed assets and related liabilities as designated funds, the Trustees have agreed that free reserves should be in the range of £1.7m and £2.6m. Although this reserves range is higher than in previous years, it represents between approximately 2 and 3 months of unrestricted spend which is considered consistent in the sector, and this level of reserves is considered appropriate for the current level of risk perceived by the Trustees.

As at 31 March 2016, free reserves were £2.4m, which is within the target range. The Trustees will continue to monitor the reserves position closely throughout the year so that we can ensure financial sustainability during this period of growth.

In addition to the free reserves, Ambitious about Autism has designated funds totalling £4.7m, as at 31 March 2016, as set out in note 19a.

These are:

- Fixed assets which, net of loans, totalled £4,047k.
- Cyclical maintenance fund - a sinking fund, based upon projected 30 year life cycle costs, was established for major repairs to the Pears National Centre for Autism Education and our other campus. £502k was in this fund at the end of 2015/16.
- School Development Fund - a designated fund was created in 2013 for broader school development. The Board agreed that £313k was to be spent against this fund in the year, leaving £147k for school development in future years.
- College Fund - a new fund was created in March 2015 to support the development of Ambitious College. This fund was fully utilised in 2015/16.
- Transformation Fund - the transformation fund was established to fund future developments to increase the capacity and capability of the organisation - it funded £80k of infrastructure, leaving £20k for future years.



Risks and uncertainties

Risks are managed in accordance with the risk policy approved by the Board of Trustees, which was reviewed and updated in 2016. The aim of the policy is:

- **to understand** as fully as possible the risks being faced or taken
- **to take appropriate action** to manage those risks, where possible and cost effective
- **to minimise the risk** that new initiatives adversely affect existing work
- **to accept a higher level of uncertainty**, if appropriate, when taking advantage of new opportunities.



Ambitious about Autism has a risk register which is reviewed annually by the Scrutiny and Audit Committee (SAC) and the Board of Trustees. Risks are scored according to likelihood, impact and the organisation's attitude to that risk. The changes to risks are reviewed quarterly by the SAC and Board, together with actions taken or proposed to manage them.

The safety and wellbeing of the children and young people in our services, and involved in our activities, **are paramount**. Young people on the autism spectrum need the quality of support to ensure that they are safe and thriving, whilst being able to learn, enjoy and achieve. We work very hard to ensure we have the right culture, policies, procedures, systems and training in place, to ensure our young people are safe. We are never complacent and review these arrangements regularly as well as in response to any best practice learning.

In common with other organisations, the changing economic and policy environment remain a potential risk for Ambitious about Autism. All current projects have appropriate funding agreements in place. **The potential risk associated with the development of new services** is mitigated through ensuring that all new services **are only developed once funding has been agreed**, unless there has been specific approval by trustees and in accordance with the annual operating budget and reserves policy.

During the current phase of expansion there is also an increased risk of not being able to project pupil and learner numbers, and therefore not having the appropriate staffing numbers in place. To manage this, pupil and learner numbers are constantly being reviewed and action taken to ensure that we have clarity around these projections. We work in partnership with local authorities and parents to support them along the administrative process.

Key risks, and their potential impact on income and the use of the charity's services, **are monitored continually** and reviewed regularly by executive leadership and reviewed at every SAC meeting.

Structure, governance and management

Structure

Ambitious about Autism is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 25 May 1997 (company number 3375255) and registered as a charity on 2 July 1997 (charity number 1063184). The company was established under a memorandum of association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed under its articles of association.

Ambitious about Autism is **governed by a Board of Trustees** which also acts as the directors of the company. Management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive and Executive Leadership Team (ELT).

The Board of Trustees has seven sub-committees:

Scrutiny and Audit Committee; Impact Committee; Investment Committee; Remuneration Committee; Governance Committee; TreeHouse School Governing Body and the Ambitious College Governing Body.

Ambitious about Autism runs TreeHouse School, a non-maintained special school, and Ambitious College, a registered day college for young people with autism aged 16-25 which was opened in 2014.

People with lived experience of autism are involved in the governance and decision-making of the charity including the Board of Trustees, Impact Committee and the Governing Bodies for TreeHouse School and Ambitious College.

The Youth Council is comprised of young people with autism and has Jonathan Andrews as Chair. Members of the Youth Council are encouraged to shape and influence our work and make presentations to the Board of Trustees.



Employees

We engage and communicate with staff on a regular basis using a range of methods, including whole staff and team meetings and briefings, a bi-monthly newsletter, senior management cascades and management meetings.

We have an active and engaged Staff Council, with representatives from across the organisation, which meets regularly, so that the views of staff can be taken into account in making decisions regarding staff policies and practices.

We encourage the involvement of staff across the organisation in its performance through a range of activities, including presentations at conferences and events, events for pupils, learners and parents/carers, fundraising, and policy activities.

All staff that join Ambitious about Autism have a comprehensive induction into the organisation. As part of this process the governance arrangements, financial performance of the organisation and economic challenges and risks are discussed, as well as our collective responsibilities around safeguarding and equality. We engage and update staff during the year on our performance, successes and challenges.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

We have a Remuneration Committee comprising Trustees, which reviews our executive performance and pay at least annually in line with our Total Reward Policy. Recommendations are made to the Board of Trustees for approval. In 2015 we commissioned an external independent review of Executive Leadership Team pay against the market, which informed the pay review (and future recruitment). We have extended the remit of the Remuneration Committee this year to review all staff pay issues alongside executive pay.

Policy for employment of disabled persons

We are fully committed to ensuring all staff with disabilities who apply and work for Ambitious about Autism are treated fairly. All recruiting staff are trained to ensure potential applicants with disabilities are fairly considered and fully supported with relevant adjustments being made during the recruitment process. We are currently working towards becoming a Disability Confident committed employer.

We ensure that all staff, including those with disabilities have the right training, career development and promotion opportunities put in place. This process starts at induction and is managed through supervisions and annual performance and development reviews.

We have access to a number of experts including Occupational Health support and an onsite physiotherapist, to provide advice to us in order to support any members of staff who need additional support.

We also provide managers with training on mental health issues and provide mindfulness training and yoga for staff.

Public benefit

Ambitious about Autism works to support children and young people with autism and their families throughout the UK. TreeHouse School supports pupils aged 3-19 and Ambitious College supports learners aged 19-25.

Placements of learners are funded by a combination of funding from the Education Funding Agency and local authorities. Other activities are funded through voluntary income or fees earned from providing a service, for example, providing specialist training or support to parents, teachers and other professionals.

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Connected organisations

Ambitious about Autism is an active member of the Autism Schools Trust, Autism Education Trust, Autism Alliance, Communications Trust, Council for Disabled Children (CDC), National Association for Non-Maintained and Independent Special Schools (NASS), The Association of National Specialist Colleges (Natspec), the steering group of the Special Education Consortium (SEC), and the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Consortium. These are independent organisations and their results are not included in the financial statements of Ambitious about Autism.



Autism Schools Trust

The Autism Schools Trust (AST) is a separate exempt charity. Ambitious about Autism works in partnership with Dimensions to support the opening of special free schools. Currently the board of AST consists of up to 10 directors; three from Ambitious about Autism, three from Dimensions and four who are independent of either organisation. As such, neither Ambitious about Autism nor Dimensions has control of AST. The AST's first school is The Rise School, which opened in September 2014. This school supports pupils with autism in West London to learn, thrive and achieve. It is co-located with Feltham Community College, a mainstream secondary school, to enable pupils to access learning and social opportunities alongside their peers. The Rise School was based in temporary accommodation at the start of the financial year, although we were thrilled that they were able to move into their new permanent building in early 2016. The AST is considering the development of further schools.



Governance and management

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees follows a regular cycle of quarterly meetings and has at least one away day with executive leadership each year.

The Scrutiny and Audit Committee (SAC) meets quarterly in advance of the board meetings and is responsible for the general oversight and scrutiny of systems, planning, financial and resource management and reporting internal controls and risk management.

The Impact Committee meets quarterly and is responsible for oversight of our influencing work, and the quality of our services and our reputation.

All matters related to the educational performance of TreeHouse School are examined by the TreeHouse School Governing Body. Similarly, the educational performance of Ambitious College is overseen by the Ambitious College Governing Body.

The Remuneration Committee reviews and agrees remuneration, and terms and conditions of employment, for the Executive Leadership Team and meets at least once per year. The Investment Committee monitors the performance of the charity's investment portfolio. The Governance Committee deals with Trustee renewal, support and review and meets quarterly. The SAC, Impact, Remuneration and Governance Committees comprise Trustees with relevant expertise. The TreeHouse School Governing Body includes some governors, who are not Trustees, who perform the roles required for a non-maintained special school. The Ambitious College Governing Body also includes governors who are not Trustees.

Ambitious about Autism has an Executive Leadership Team, headed by the Chief Executive, which reports to the Trustees and attends the board and sub-committee meetings.

Trustee recruitment, induction and training

The charity's aim is to build a Board which has the optimum range of skills, experience and perspectives to ensure that the charity has the appropriate level of support, scrutiny and oversight.

The recruitment and induction policy works to promote this goal. New Trustees are recruited openly through a variety of channels including search, advertising and through networks. Once recruited, Trustees are supported with an induction programme and handbook in the first few months and then ongoing training as required.

Recruitment, induction and appraisal of Trustees are overseen by the Governance Committee. During 2015/16, following an open process, Neil Goulden was appointed as a Trustee and became Vice Chair. In addition, Maria Chambers was appointed as a Trustee and Chair of the Ambitious College Governing Body. Philippa Stobbs became the Chair of the TreeHouse School Governing Body, having served as its Vice Chair. Lesley Longstone became the Chair of the Impact Committee. Koral Anderson was appointed as a Trustee.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 7 to the accounts.

Trustees

The Trustees are directors and members of the charitable company. They each guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of winding up.

The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2016 was 10 (2015:11).

The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the charitable company.

- Koral Anderson
(appointed 26.6.15)
- Maria Chambers
(Chair of Ambitious College Governing Body, appointed 26.6.15)
- Claire Coombe-Tennant
(retired 25.09.15)
- John Constantine
(Chair of the Board of Trustees)
- Martyn Craddock
- Paul Disley-Tindell
(Chair of Remuneration Committee)
- Michael Fiddy
- Neil Goulden
(Vice Chair of Board of Trustees appointed 26.6.15)
- Lesley Longstone (Chair of Impact Committee appointed 25.9.15)
- Lorraine Petersen OBE
(Chair of TreeHouse School Governing Body, retired 10.02.16)
- Elizabeth Stanton
(Treasurer of the Board of Trustees and Chair of the Scrutiny and Audit Committee)
- Philippa Stobbs
(appointed Chair of TreeHouse School Governing Body from 10.02.16, previously Vice Chair)

The Trustees are supported in their work by the President and Vice Presidents who all support the work of our charity. The Trustees delegate day-to-day management of the charity to the Executive Leadership.



President

- Lord Tim Clement-Jones CBE

Vice Presidents

- Peter Carroll
- Nick Baldwin
- Virginia Bovell OBE
- Tristia Clarke
- Katharine Doré
- Karen Edwards
- Alex Hatter
- Richard Hatter
- Nick Hornby
- Matthew Punshon
- Sid Wells

Expert Advisors

Our team of expert advisers are leading academics, clinicians, lawyers, communications professionals and young people – all with an interest in autism and a passion to raise awareness and understanding.

They provide advice and guidance on specific projects and campaigns and all work on a voluntary basis. We are honoured to be able to draw on the expertise of:

- Judith Barnard
- Prof. Simon Baron Cohen
- Steve Broach
- Leo Capella
- Prof. Tony Charman
- Prof. Richard Hastings
- Prof. Pat Howlin
- Jonathan Meth
- Emran Mian OBE
- David Nicholson
- James Partridge OBE
- Nick Peacey
- Dr. Liz Pellicano
- Mark Schmid
- Dr. Rowie Shaw
- Fiona Slomovic
- Su Thomas
- Richard Townley
- Gaby Zein

Ambassadors

Our team of Ambassadors are from all walks of life, but they all share an interest in autism and a passion to raise awareness and understanding. They are willing to lend their name to our ambitions and help us to attract support from a wide and varied audience. Our team of Ambassadors will grow over time as we find new people keen to champion Ambitious about Autism and eager to help us raise our profile and much-needed funds. Our current team of Ambassadors is:

- Jon Snow
- Sarah Cawood
- Michelle Collins
- Niamh Cusack
- Jonny Gould
- Simon and Lucy Mottram
- Hayley Ronson
- Luke Treadaway

Parent Patrons

Our team of Parent Patrons are all people whose lives have been touched by autism. This team will grow over time as we recruit more parents who want to champion Ambitious about Autism and improve understanding and awareness of the condition. Our team of Parent Patrons are:

- Speaker John Bercow MP
- Sally Bercow
- Nicky Clark
- Matthew Davis
- Keith Duffy
- Eliza Mishcon
- Charlotte Moore
- Claire Ryan
- Sophie Walker

Executive Leadership

- Jolanta Lasota - Chief Executive
- Vivienne Berkeley - Principal, Ambitious College
- Kevin Oakhill - Director of Education Services
- Louise Posocco - Director of Finance and Company Secretary
- Kerry Sternstein - Headteacher, TreeHouse School
- John Trampleasure - Director of Fundraising, External Affairs and Strategy
- Zoe Weaver - Director of People

The Executive Leadership is supported by a number of external organisations detailed on page 30.

Bankers

National Westminster Bank Plc
190 Muswell Hill, Broadway, LONDON, N10 3TF

Clydesdale Bank Plc
88 Wood Street, LONDON, EC2V 7QQ

CAF Bank
Kings Hill, West Malling, KENT, ME19 4TA

Solicitors

Macfarlanes LLP
10 Norwich Street, LONDON, EC4A 1BD

DLA Piper UK LLP
3 Noble Street, LONDON, EC2V 7EE

Farrer & Co LLP
66 Lincoln's Inn Fields, LONDON, WC2A 3LH

Investment Managers

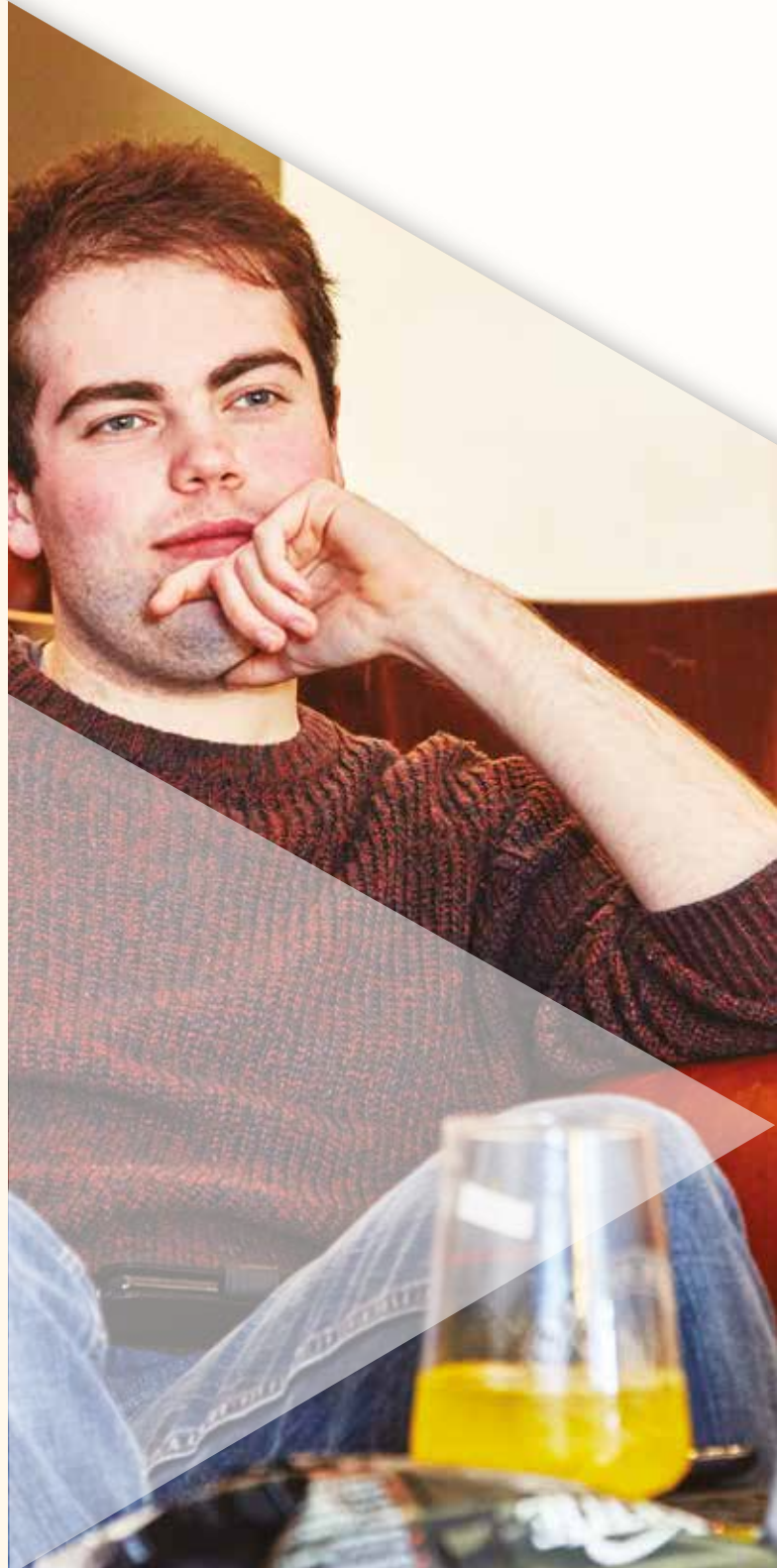
Rathbone Bros Plc
1 Curzon Street, LONDON, W1J 5FB

Auditors

Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Registered Office

Registered office and operational address
The Pears National Centre for Autism Education
Woodside Avenue, LONDON, N10 3JA



Statement of the Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Ambitious about Autism for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable 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 estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Annual Report and Accounts which includes the strategic report has been approved by the Trustees on 30 September 2016 and signed on their behalf by

John Constantine

Chair of Board of Trustees



Independent auditors' report

To the members of Ambitious about Autism

We have audited the financial statements of Ambitious about Autism for the year ended 31 March 2016, which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the statement of the Trustees' responsibilities set out in the Annual Report of the Trustees, 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.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the trustees' annual report, including the strategic report, to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements in the annual report, including the strategic report, to identify material inconsistencies, we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

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 2016 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.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Annual Report of the Trustees, including the strategic report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate 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.

Helen Elliott (Senior statutory auditor)

30 September 2016

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditors
Invicta House,
108-114 Golden Lane,
LONDON, EC1Y 0TL



Financial statements

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2016

		2016			2015		
	Note	Unrestricted £'000	Restricted £'000	Total £'000	Unrestricted £'000	Restricted £'000	Total £'000
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	857	912	1,769	868	941	1,809
Charitable activities:							
Educational services	3	8,483	-	8,483	7,788	27	7,815
External affairs	3	-	390	390	-	-	-
Other trading activities	4	80	-	80	45	-	45
Investments		67	-	67	70	-	70
Total income		9,487	1,302	10,789	8,771	968	9,739
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		816	243	1,059	704	-	704
Charitable activities:							
Educational services		8,811	892	9,703	7,084	983	8,067
External affairs		975	243	1,218	418	514	932
Total expenditure	5	10,602	1,378	11,980	8,206	1,497	9,703
Net (expenditure) / income before net (losses) / gains on investments		(1,115)	(76)	(1,191)	565	(529)	36
Net (losses) / gains on investments		(85)	-	(85)	68	-	68
Net (expenditure) / income for the year	6	(1,200)	(76)	(1,276)	633	(529)	104
Transfers between and from funds		424	(424)	-	4,246	(4,246)	-
Net movement in funds	19	(776)	(500)	(1,276)*	4,879	(4,775)	104
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		7,891	826	8,717	3,012	5,601	8,613
Total funds carried forward	19	7,115	326	7,441	7,891	826	8,717

*As analysed in note 19b, £1,082k was funded by designated funds, created for this purpose.

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 19a to the financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2016

Company no. 3375255

	Note	2016		2015	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	11		10,609		10,468
Investments	12		1,455		1,540
			12,064		12,008
Current assets:					
Debtors	13	811		591	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,823		3,764	
		2,634		4,355	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,039)		(1,051)	
Net current assets			1,595		3,304
Total assets less current liabilities			13,659		15,312
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	16		(6,218)		(6,595)
Total net assets	18		7,441		8,717
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds	19		326		826
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds		4,716		6,732	
Fair value reserve		-		85	
General funds		2,399		1,074	
Total unrestricted funds			7,115		7,891
Total charity funds			7,441		8,717

Approved by the Trustees on 30 September 2016 and signed on their behalf by

John Constantine
Chair

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2016

	Note	2016		2015	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	20		(1,034)		602
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		67		70	
Interest payable		(128)		(157)	
Purchase of fixed assets		(469)		(212)	
Proceeds from sale of investments		99		1,346	
Purchase of investments		(99)		(1,350)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(530)		(303)
Cash flows from financing activities:					
Repayments of borrowing		(377)		(326)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(377)		(326)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			(1,941)		(27)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			3,764		3,791
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			1,823		3,764

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2016

1. Accounting policies

a) 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) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (August 2014) and the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required. The transition date was 1 April 2014. No restatement was required.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The Trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

e) Income

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

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. Fees are recognised as services are rendered, deferring until criteria is met.

School and college fee income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation 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 gifts, 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.

g) Interest receivable

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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

i) 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. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, and other educational activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs

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

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

1. Accounting policies (continued)

j) Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

Central Function	Main Basis for Allocation
Leadership	Time spent
Finance	Staff head count
Human resources	Staff head count
IT	Staff head count
Facilities management	Area occupied
General administration	Staff head count
Premises and office costs	Area occupied

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £5,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset except land to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The useful lives are as follows:

Freehold building at Woodside Avenue	50 years
Short leasehold	over the lease term
Computer equipment and software	3 years
Educational, office furniture and equipment	3-10 years
Motor vehicles	5 years

m) Listed 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. Any change in fair value will be recognised in the statement of financial activities and any excess of fair value over the historic cost of the investments will be shown as a fair value reserve in the balance sheet. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net gains/(losses) on investments" in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

n) 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.

o) 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. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

p) 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.

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.

q) Pensions

Ambitious about Autism has a defined contribution pension scheme available to all staff.

Ambitious about Autism also contributes to the Teachers' Pension Scheme. The pension available to teaching staff is a defined benefit, multi-employer scheme and the assets and liabilities of the scheme cannot be split out for individual employers. Further information on the scheme is given in note 17.

On 1 July 2014, and in compliance with Government legislation on Auto Enrolment, a defined contribution group personal pension scheme was opened. Employees were able to join on inception or under the rules of Auto enrolment with a deferred period of 3 months.

The pension costs charged in the statement of financial activities represent the contributions payable by the charity in the year to all pension schemes.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £'000	Restricted £'000	2016 Total £'000	2015 Total £'000
Gifts	857	912	1,769	1,761
Donated services	-	-	-	48
	857	912	1,769	1,809

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £'000	Restricted £'000	2016 Total £'000	2015 Total £'000
Local Authorities	7,627	-	7,627	6,999
Education Funding Agency	856	-	856	816
Sub-total for Educational Services	8,483	-	8,483	7,815
Department for Education	-	229	229	-
Department of Health	-	161	161	-
Sub-total for External Affairs	-	390	390	-
Total income from charitable activities	8,483	390	8,873	7,815

4. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted £'000	Restricted £'000	2016 Total £'000	2015 Total £'000
Training and consultancy	80	-	80	45

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

5. Analysis of expenditure

		Charitable activities					
	Cost of raising funds £'000	Educational services £'000	External affairs £'000	Governance costs £'000	Support costs £'000	2016 Total £'000	2015 Total £'000
Staff costs (Note 7)	347	5,768	500	136	962	7,713	6,581
Direct costs	351	985	83	22	214	1,655	850
Finance (incl. loan interest)	-	-	-	-	512	512	533
Human resources	-	-	-	-	274	274	235
IT	-	-	-	-	385	385	288
Premises and office costs	185	156	65	-	933	1,339	985
Leadership	-	-	-	30	72	102	231
	883	6,909	648	188	3,352	11,980	9,703
Supports costs	162	2,662	528	-	(3,352)	-	-
Governance costs	14	132	42	(188)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2016	1,059	9,703	1,218	-	-	11,980	-
Total expenditure 2015	704	8,067	932	-	-	-	9,703

6. Net (expenditure) / income for the year

This is stated after charging:

		2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Depreciation		328	314
Interest payable		128	157
Auditors' remuneration (excluding VAT):			
	Audit	12	13
	Other services	4	2
Payments under operating leases:			
	Property	58	38
	Equipment	41	41

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

7. Analysis of staff costs, Trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Salaries and wages	6,794	5,752
Redundancy and termination costs	18	18
Social security costs	599	515
Employer's contribution to pension schemes	302	296
	7,713	6,581

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) during the year between:

	2016 No.	2015 No.
£60,000 - £69,999	-	-
£70,000 - £79,999	1	3
£80,000 - £89,999	3	3
£90,000 - £99,999	1	1

The table above shows a breakdown of staff earnings above £60k. Staff turnover within the senior staff team meant that a lower number of staff received more than £60,000 in the year.

The total employee benefits including pension contributions of the key management personnel were £445,709 (2015: £517,088).

Jolanta Lasota, Chief Executive of Ambitious about Autism, was paid a salary of £92,220 (2015: £92,917), and £10,500 (2015: £10,250) was paid into a defined contribution scheme.

The charity Trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2015: £nil). No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2015: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represents the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £617 (2015: £1,000) incurred by 2 (2015: 3) members relating to attendance at meetings of the Trustees.

8. Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2016 No.	2015 No.
Raising funds	10	9
Educational services	227	189
External affairs	9	9
Support	20	16
	266	223

Increase in staff numbers is due to growth of the charity.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

9. Related party transactions

Some members of the Board of Trustees are parents of children attending TreeHouse School. The places are funded in the same way as all the other places at the school and the children receive the same service and benefits as other children. Lorraine Peterson, Ambitious about Autism Trustee, was the Chief Executive of the National Association for Special Educational Needs which is a partner of the Finished at School Project. There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

10. Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £'000	Short leasehold £'000	Educational, office furniture and equipment £'000	Computer equipment and software £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Total £'000
Cost						
At the start of the year	11,718	-	223	394	113	12,448
Additions in year	-	-	14	12	19	45
Construction in progress	-	424	-	-	-	424
At the end of the year	11,718	424	237	406	132	12,917
Depreciation						
At the start of the year	1,482	-	213	208	77	1,980
Charge for the year	234	-	7	65	22	328
At the end of the year	1,716	-	220	273	99	2,308
Net book value						
At the end of the year	10,002	424	17	133	33	10,609
At the start of the year	10,236	-	10	186	36	10,468

Land with a cost of £834,000 (2015: £834,000) is included within freehold property and not depreciated.

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

Construction in progress of £424,000 relates to the work on our new college at The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London which was completed in July 2016 from when it will be depreciated.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

12. Investments

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Fair value at the start of the year	1,540	1,468
Additions at cost	99	1,350
Disposal proceeds	(99)	(1,346)
Net (loss) / gain on change in fair value	(85)	68
Fair value at the end of the year	1,455	1,540
Historic cost at the end of the year	1,455	1,455

Investments comprise:

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Listed securities		
Fixed interest	249	257
Direct UK equities	530	620
Direct overseas equities	495	510
Alternatives	157	129
Other	24	24
Market value	1,455	1,540
Historic cost as at 31 March 2016	1,455	1,455

Investments representing over 5% by value of the portfolio comprise:

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Capital International Management	86	-

13. Debtors

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Trade debtors	339	204
Other debtors	17	31
Prepayments	238	203
Accrued income	217	153
	811	591

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Bank loans	344	344
Trade creditors	338	158
Taxation and social security	181	149
Other creditors	53	132
Accruals	123	196
Deferred income	-	72
	1,039	1,051

15. Deferred income

Deferred income comprises fees received in advance:

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Balance at the beginning of the year	72	323
Amount released to income in the year	(72)	(323)
Amount deferred in the year	-	72
Balance at the end of the year	-	72

16. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Loans to finance the permanent building	4,609	4,888
Loan to finance Ambitious College	1,609	1,707
Balance at the end of the year	6,218	6,595

The charity has a loan from Futurebuilders which commenced in October 2008 and is repayable over 25 years. Interest is chargeable at 1.25% above the Bank of England base rate for five years from August 2014 thereafter it is subject to agreement between Futurebuilders and Ambitious about Autism. The loan is secured over the freehold land and buildings at Woodside Avenue.

The charity also has a loan from National Westminster Bank Plc, in tranches of £1.1m and £1.9m, which commenced in November 2008 and April 2012 respectively. Interest is chargeable at 0.75% above LIBOR and 1.25% above LIBOR respectively. The loan is repayable from November 2013 over 22 years. One tranche of the loan (£1.1million) is capped at an interest rate of 4%. The loan is secured over the freehold land and buildings at Woodside Avenue.

17. Pension scheme

The charity makes contributions to the Aegon Pension Scheme, The People's Pension (B&CE), Teachers Pension Scheme and into one employee's pension scheme.

Contributions to these previously existing schemes for 2016 were £302k.

Contributions to these schemes for 2015 were £296k.

Defined Contribution Schemes

The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of Ambitious about Autism. Pension costs charged in the SOFA represent the contributions payable by Ambitious about Autism for the year.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted £'000	Designated £'000	Restricted £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	10,609	-	10,609
Investments	1,455	-	-	1,455
Net current assets	944	325	326	1,595
Long term liabilities	-	(6,218)	-	(6,218)
Net assets at the end of the year	2,399	4,716	326	7,441

19a. Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £'000	Incoming resources and gains £'000	Outgoing resources and losses £'000	Transfers £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds:					
Youth Patron Project	16	61	(29)	-	48
East of England	12	33	(19)	-	26
Family support	42	27	(53)	-	16
Ambitious College	387	444	(816)	-	15
Treehouse School	18	19	(26)	-	11
myVoice	20	162	(172)	-	10
Succeeding at College	-	229	(222)	-	7
Other	81	77	(41)	-	117
	576	1,052	(1,378)	-	250
Capital:					
Ambitious College	250	250	-	(424)	76
Total restricted funds	826	1,302	(1,378)	(424)	326
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
Fixed assets	5,158	-	(177)	(934)	4,047
School development	460	-	(313)	-	147
Transformation fund	100	-	(80)	-	20
Ambitious College	300	-	(300)	-	-
Cyclical Maintenance Fund	714	-	(212)	-	502
Total designated funds	6,732	-	(1,082)	(934)	4,716
Fair value reserve	85	-	(85)	-	-
General funds	1,074	9,487	(9,520)	1,358	2,399
Total unrestricted funds	7,891	9,487	(10,687)	424	7,115
Total funds	8,717	10,789	(12,065)	-	7,441

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

19b. Summary movement in funds

	At the start of the year £'000	Net expenditure for the year £'000	Transfers between funds £'000	At the end of the year £'000
Restricted funds	826	(76)	(424)	326
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds	6,732	(1,082)	(934)	4,716
Fair value reserve	85	(85)	-	-
General funds	1,074	(33)	1,358	2,399
Total unrestricted funds	7,891	(1,200)	424	7,115
Total funds	8,717	(1,276)	-	7,441

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

19c. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds:

TreeHouse School	Funding provided to support a range of specific activities across the school.
Ambitious College	The charity continues its work to establish Ambitious College, London's only specialist day college for young people with complex autism aged 16-25 years. It will be co-located and developed in partnership with a general further education college.
Family support	We have received funding for our family support function, which aims to secure strong and timely direct advice and support to families and carers of young people through periods of transition, such as from primary to secondary school, from school to further education, training or other placement, and to adulthood.
Youth patron project	Funding has been received from Give it Away to develop youth participation, including a Youth Council and team of Youth Patrons. The youth participation work ensures the needs and views of young people with autism are central to the charity's work. The work also creates platforms, for young people with autism, to raise awareness of autism and campaign for change.
East of England	Ambitious about Autism delivers Autism Education Trust (AET) post-16 training under licence in the East of England region. This is a three tier training programme for professionals working in post-16 education. We have worked in partnership with City College Norwich to deliver the training since 2014.
Succeeding at College	Succeeding at College is a project that works to support more young people with autism to continue their education beyond school. It involves delivering a national face-to-face training programme and measuring the longer term impact of the Finished at School Programme. Between September 2015 and March 2016, over 500 people trained across England.
myVoice	myVoice is a three year project funded by the Department of Health. It is a youth volunteering project for 16-25 year olds with autism. Volunteers represent young people with autism and can review local services, engage their local community and connect with each other online.
Other	Other funds represent a number of small funds.

Purposes of designated funds:

Fixed assets	This fund represents the net book value of the fixed assets, net of the loans used to purchase them, which are not, by the nature of fixed assets, readily available for other purposes.
Schools development	The school fund has been established to fund school development.
Transformation fund	The transformation fund was established to fund the future development of technology, transformation of the resources team, the 2014-17 Strategic Plan, and a governance review.
Ambitious College	The charity continues its work to establish Ambitious College. This fund was established to support this aim, assisting the noted restricted funding.
Cyclical Maintenance fund	The sinking fund has been established to provide for major repairs to the building based on 30 year life cycle costings prepared by external consultants.
Fair value reserve	The fair value reserve represents the accumulated unrealised gains made on Ambitious about Autism's investments.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2016

20. Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Net (expenditure) / income	(1,276)	104
Depreciation charges	328	314
Losses / (gains) on investments	85	(68)
Dividends, interest and rent from investments	(67)	(70)
Interest payable	128	157
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(220)	283
(Decrease) in creditors	(12)	(118)
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	(1,034)	602

21. Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	Property		Equipment	
	2016 Total £'000	2015 Total £'000	2016 Total £'000	2015 Total £'000
Less than one year	71	50	41	41
One to five years	222	13	31	72
Over five years	16	-	-	-
	309	63	72	113

22. Capital commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charity had committed to £553,000 (2015: £0).

23. Legal status of the charity

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 limited to £1.

Our thanks

We would like to extend our most sincere thanks to our many generous and loyal supporters who have enabled us to make the ordinary possible for children and young people with autism.

Just some of our major partners include:

- The Pears Foundation
- BBC Children in Need
- TalkTalk Telecom Group plc.
- The City Bridge Trust
- Comic Relief
- The Clothworkers' Foundation
- The Department for Education
- The Department of Health
- The Garfield Weston Foundation
- Rapha
- The Wolfson Foundation
- The Henry Smith Charity
- Maurice Hatter Foundation
- The Thompson Family Charitable Trust
- The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust
- The Band Trust
- Baily Thomas Charitable Fund
- The Barbara Ward Children's Foundation
- The Boshier-Hinton Foundation
- The Charles Dunstone Charitable Trust
- The Coombe-Tennant Foundation
- DLA Piper UK LLP
- The Equitable Charitable Trust
- Charlotte Grobien and Give It Away Ltd
- Global Radio
- Heathrow Community Fund
- The Leathersellers' Company Charitable Fund
- Macfarlanes
- RDAS (Residential Development Agents Society)
- Sir Jules Thorn Foundation
- The Roan Charitable Trust
- The Social Investment Business
- Connected World Services
- Sarah Gentleman and Rachel Massey



Get involved



Join our Circle of Ambitious Friends

Our Ambitious Friends form the backbone of Ambitious about Autism: making a generous, annual commitment to our work; making the ordinary possible for children and young people with autism.

We are always looking to increase this special group of our most generous and influential supporters.

The membership is £1,200 (£100 a month), but we are delighted that a number of our Ambitious Friends are kind enough to make five and six figure donations.



Campaign with us

We know that it can be difficult for children with autism and their families to get the help they need and we want to change that.

We campaign to change policy and practice as we want to make sure all children with autism can get the help they need to succeed at school and college and achieve their potential as young adults.

Families are the most powerful campaigners of all and we hope you will be inspired to get involved in our campaigning work.

<https://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/campaigning-with-us>



Partner with us

Nothing we do would be possible without our partners. A lot of people will have a connection to someone with autism or be impacted by autism. There are many ways you can support us. You might want to fund one of our projects, organise an event in aid of Ambitious about Autism or support employees who want to volunteer for us.

Leave us a legacy

By leaving a legacy you can support the next generation of children with autism.



Donate online

Donate online via our secure website page and **make a lasting difference** to the lives and futures of children with autism, today.

<https://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/donations/donation-page>

If you are interested in finding out more about the many ways you can support us, please email info@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk or call 020 8815 5424.





Key contact information

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**Ambitious
about Autism**