



The Treehouse School

THE TREEHOUSE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2014

Company Registration 07655828
Charity Registration 1143650

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Names of Trustees: Alison Robertson (Chair), Deborah Balchin, Eve Evans, Mitchell Fraser-Jones (Treasurer), David Hodson, Chris Smith, Andrea Turner, Gillian Williams

Names of Senior Staff: Lee Ryman, Sharon Julian

Charity number: 1143650
Company number: 07655828

Principal Address: The Treehouse School
37 Wallingford Road
Cholsey
Oxfordshire
OX10 9LG

Registered office
and solicitors: Slade Legal
The Old Bank
137 Broadway
Didcot
Oxfordshire
OX11 8RQ

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CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear Donors, Supporters and Friends,

Welcome to the third Annual Report of The Treehouse Trust, for the year ended 31st March 2014.

The Trust was established in 2011 to support The Treehouse School, a small, alternative, non fee-paying primary school which opened in September 2012 with 15 pupils. The school's founders, Lee Ryman and Sharon Julian, believe that children's social, emotional, physical and metacognitive progress are as important as their academic achievement and have tailored the curriculum and timetable to reflect this. They also recognise that children learn best in an environment where they are valued, and where their strengths and interests are acknowledged and celebrated. The school is founded in the belief that the more involvement and responsibility children have for their learning, the greater motivation and progress they make.

Due to its status, The Treehouse is able to work with more autonomy than many other schools. There is a bias towards experiential and outdoor learning with a strong emphasis on sustainable and healthy lifestyles. Through constant evaluation, both from within the school and from external sources, methods for enhancing children's learning are constantly being developed.

We are entirely dependent on donations, grants and fundraising and the Trustees would like to acknowledge and thank all our donors for their financial contributions, great and small, during the year. We are also very grateful for the continued commitment of a hard-working group of parents and an ever widening circle of volunteers. Links have been formed with a range of individuals and organisations within the local community all of which enhance the children's educational experience. This year the school has attracted interest and support further afield as its work and reputation has spread. It has welcomed practitioners into the school to see its approach in action and developed relationships with other schools enabling the sharing of good practice and giving the children the chance to interact with others.

The school had its first Ofsted Inspection in November 2013 and was awarded a Good rating. The Trust is proud of the children's achievements this year. Although The Treehouse is still at an early stage of its development, it has been able to demonstrate that children of all ages and abilities are able to make good or better progress, in all areas of their learning. Furthermore, and without exception, the children's confidence,

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their attitude towards learning, and their ability to learn, have improved significantly since they joined the school. These essential attributes will be invaluable when the first group of pupils leave The Treehouse at the end of this academic year to continue in secondary education.

In the light of increasing demand for places, the Trustees are now looking into the possibility of expansion through the construction of a purpose-built eco school.

So the year ahead is a challenging one but we are confident that the Treehouse School will continue to deliver an enriching and rewarding education to its pupils whilst highlighting a successful alternative model to a wider educational audience.

Alison Robertson

December 2014

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report together with the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014.

The format and content of this report and financial statements comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 1993 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' 2005.

The Treehouse Trust was incorporated on 2 June 2011 as a charitable company limited by guarantee with company registration number 07655828 and charity registration number 1143650. The Trust has achieved a great deal since it was set up largely due to the support and commitment of well over fifty volunteers. Our achievements to date are listed below.

September 2011: Charitable status achieved for the project.

Autumn 2011: Policies, procedures and learning programmes established.

January 2012: Weekly Forest School sessions piloted with over 20 preschool children and parents attending on a weekly basis.

April 2012: Change of use granted on residential premises to house the school for a three year term.

Registration with the Department for Education commences.

July 2012: 15 children from our local community awarded places at the Treehouse School

July/August: Ofsted give their approval to open School in September 2012 in temporary premises in Cholsey. Over 50 volunteers contribute time, skills and resources to prepare the school to welcome its first 15 children. Volunteers include highly skilled tradesmen, parents and retired people.

September 2012: The Treehouse School opens.

August 2013: Permanent planning permission to use the current site is granted. Numbers at the school can also be increased from 15 to 20 children.

November 2013: First Ofsted Inspection – school awarded a Good rating.

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The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the accounts and comply with Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, applicable law and the requirements of the SORP issued in March 2005.

Structure, Governance and Management

The trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law and who served during the year were Samantha Rhodes (Chair), Deborah Balchin, Eve Evans, Ann Harris, David Hodson, Mitchell Fraser-Jones (Treasurer), Andrea Turner, Gillian Williams (Secretary)

Trustees are elected by the Board to fill a vacancy or to enhance the particular skills of the Board. Potential Trustees are identified from a wide range of scholastic, business and professional fields and are considered against the Trust's specifications concerning eligibility, competence and specialist skills. They are elected at a meeting of the Board. New Trustees are inducted by the Chairman of the Trust. Training is offered to all trustees. The Trustees are legally responsible for the overall management of the Trust and its objectives.

The Company has no share capital and consequently no Trustee has any interest in the Company. The liability of the Trustees is limited to the extent of £1 each in the event of the Company winding up.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees, who are also the directors of The Treehouse Trust for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and 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 year.

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust and enable

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them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small company exemption

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

A Robertson
December 2014

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE TREEHOUSE TRUST

I report on the accounts of The Treehouse Trust for the year ended 31 March 2014, which are set out on pages 10 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 122(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) Of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required under an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr Nigel Thomas
Chartered Accountant
14 The Forty
Cholsey
Wallingford
Oxon
OX10 9LH

December 2014

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2014

	Note	2014	2014
		Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
		£	£
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Donations	2	12,775	24,468
Grants	3	3,492	-
Fundraising	4	19,075	9,481
Investment Income	5	62	36
		<u>35,404</u>	<u>33,985</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities	6	13,225	-
Other incoming resources	7	5,872	2,017
Total incoming resources		<u>£54,501</u>	<u>£36,002</u>
Resources expended			
Charitable activities			
Provision of educational services	8	36,084	11,866
Governance costs	9	570	3,450
		<u>36,654</u>	<u>15,316</u>
Total resources expended		<u>36,654</u>	<u>15,316</u>
Net Income for the year		<u>£17,847</u>	<u>£20,686</u>

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

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BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST MARCH 2014

	Note	2014 Unrestricted funds £	2014 Unrestricted funds £
Current assets			
Stocks	11	448	392
Debtors	12	1,097	-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>48,327</u>	<u>30,574</u>
		49,872	30,966
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>2,973</u>	<u>1,914</u>
Net current assets		<u>46,899</u>	<u>29,052</u>
Net Assets		<u>£46,899</u>	<u>£29,052</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>46,899</u>	<u>29,052</u>
Total funds		<u>£46,899</u>	<u>£29,052</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were prepared by the Board of Trustees on and were signed on its behalf by:

M Fraser-Jones
Trustee/Treasurer

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2014

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting for Smaller entities (effective April 2008), the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statements of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the Trust is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows

Improvements to leasehold properties	Straight line over 10 years.
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Straight line over 4 years.

Leasing and hire purchase commitments

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Pensions

The pension costs charged in the accounts represent the contributions payable by the trust during the year.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2014

2. DONATIONS

	2014 £	2014 £
Donations and gifts	<u>12,775</u>	<u>24,468</u>

3. GRANTS

	2014 £	2014 £
Grants received	<u>3,492</u>	-

4. FUNDRAISING

	2014 £	2014 £
Fundraising events	<u>18,927</u>	<u>9,481</u>

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2014 £	2014 £
Interest received	<u>62</u>	<u>36</u>

6. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2014 £	2014 £
Fees for ancillary costs	<u>13,225</u>	-

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7. OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES

	2014 £	2014 £
Income from stall sales	<u>5,872</u>	<u>2,017</u>

8. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COSTS

	2014 £	2014 £
Wages and NI	18,315	6,980
Utilities and rates	2,540	2,071
Insurance	1,282	1,060
Telephone and broadband	573	-
Ancillary costs	13,373	-
Repairs	-	1,715
Other costs	-	40
	<u>36,083</u>	<u>11,866</u>

9. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2014 £	2014 £
Planning application and associated costs	-	710
Professional fees	570	1,365
Other costs	-	1,375
	<u>570</u>	<u>3,450</u>

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2014 (2013: £Nil).

Trustees' Expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2014 (2013: £Nil).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2014

11. STOCKS

	2014	2013
	£	£
Goods for resale	448	392

12. DEBTORS

	2014	2013
	£	£
Prepayments	1,097	-

13. CREDITORS

	2014	2013
	£	£
Accruals	2,973	1,914