



Sharing the gospel truths with children and families throughout the United Kingdom.

**2023**  
**No. 16**

## Annual News Update

This last year has been amazing. We have had the privilege of partnering with five local primary schools delivering 60 PSHE workshops, and over 30 assemblies. We have come alongside and supported over 20 individuals. Alongside the Primary School Partnerships, we have linked with a further 18 schools where we have led over 100 assemblies. We have also had the opportunity this year to minister locally in churches as well as nationally as we linked with the WhizzKids at Spring Harvest and shared some child-friendly bible teaching during Holy Week on UCB 2. Overall this year, we have shared the gospel truths with over 25,000 children and their families throughout the United Kingdom as we celebrate 23 years in ministry.



### The Primary School Partnership (PSP) :

It has been such a blessing to partner with our five local primary schools again this year. Our Listening Ears mentoring program has come alongside and supported over 20 individuals and we have given them the much-needed time and space to express their emotions, worries and fears and helped them move forward. One parent said that our Listening Ears sessions have enabled her son to talk through, face and release his anger. She now sees a much happier and more well-rounded child. Another parent said that their daughter was very withdrawn due to a family split and that it was affecting her behaviour at school and her attitude at home. After our sessions, she said how the girl seemed “visibly lighter” and she was now able to talk and laugh with her daughter again. We have received many letters from parents expressing how our sessions have been vital in supporting their children with their overall well-being and have provided the much-needed space for their children to talk.





Alongside the Listening Ears, we have led over 30 different workshops with our partnering schools and have seen children learn and express themselves in a way they couldn't do in a traditional school lesson. On leaving one of the workshops, one child commented, "This has been the best lesson ever.". We have also received feedback from school staff saying how our workshops have provided a great place for their kinesthetic learners to excel. Another staff member expressed how he feels that our RE-based sessions give a more rounded, balanced and age-appropriate understanding of religion. One of our head teachers said how the partnership between Kids UK and their school brings vital enrichment that without us the school would lack. We believe that the partnership with these 5 local schools has been hugely successful and it has been a real privilege to continue to visit them each week.



### **DancelitOut :**



Our DancelitOut community dance clubs have continued to grow over this last year as we have linked with the Ark Community Church Sutton Coldfield. We now lead 4 individual, age-appropriate dance sessions linking with over 25 children and young people each week. Many of our users struggle with self-esteem, body image and have experienced bullying and feeling like they don't fit in. It has been truly humbling to come alongside these individuals and encourage them to find true happiness in being themselves as well as supporting them and their families. One of our dancers was being bullied at school and was coping with this by self-harming.

Feeling safe in our sessions, she opened up and shared with us about how she was feeling and what had been going on. This meant we were able to link with her family to get her help, and also support her through this difficult time.



Her mother said she feels that DancelitOut has saved her child's life, that Dance has brought her daughter freedom and put a smile back on her face. It is truly amazing to see how DancelitOut has gone from strength to strength over the last 8 years and helped to support so many young people.





### Church Connect :

Over the years we have continued to support churches locally and nationally. We have loved linking with Four Oaks Baptist Church to



support their monthly Messy Church sessions as well as their monthly all-age family services. We have received encouraging feedback on the messages Andi has shared and many commented on how he is able to communicate biblical truths to all ages clearly and that he is very easy to listen to. Andi has also led all-age services at a further 8 churches along with 5-holiday club sessions, 3 Sunday School Specials, a church weekend away and several short puppet presentations at a variety of church events.

### ReachOut School Program :

Our ReachOut school program has enabled us to visit a further 18 local schools with 5 different assembly themes. These presentations focussed on maintaining good mental health and well-being. They unpacked, the thoughts we listen to, the words we speak to ourselves and how our actions mould our character, as well as our seasonal Christmas and Easter messages. We have received some encouraging feedback from schools saying how they felt these assemblies were just what the school needed and we communicated the message perfectly and age-appropriately.



### National Ministry :

Over Easter, Andi & Holly were asked to join the WhizzKids team at Spring Harvest again. During the week Andi (with help from Jack) helped to unpack The Sermon



on the Mount looking at the upside-down kingdom with over 350 5 to 7-year-olds. It was also lovely for Holly to teach the children a special dance looking at how we are all unique and wonderfully made and watching them (and the leaders) engage and worshipping God through dance. We were asked by UCB radio to write and deliver 5 short daily children's bible studies that were aired during Holy Week on UCB 2's breakfast show.

These were received well and we are looking forward to creating some more talks early next year.



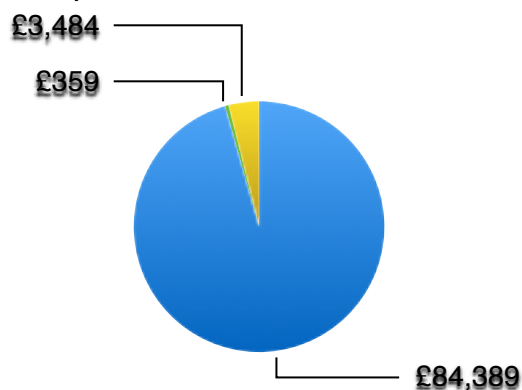
## Finance :

The financing of the work we do depends on the voluntary support of individuals, grant funders and organisations we work with. This year we have been blessed with a significant donation from an anonymous donor which has more than doubled our income. We have earmarked much of this to support the development and delivery of our Listening Ears mentoring work in local schools over the next couple of years.

If you would like a full copy of our Annual Accounts please contact the Kids UK office.

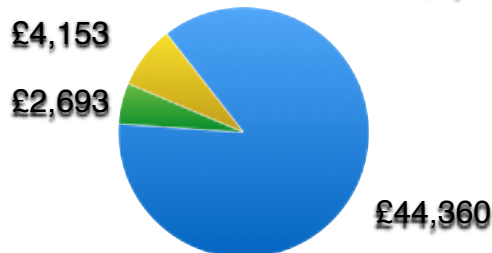
Income 2023 total £88,232 (2022 £42,513)

- Donations & Gifts
- Other Income
- Charitable Activities



Expenditure 2023 total £51,206 (2022 £50,074)

- Staff Costs
- Governance & Support
- Charitable Activities



## Get Involved :

**Practically** – Could you spare an hour a week to provide a listening ear to a child in a local school? We are currently looking for individuals who may be interested in being trained to work with us. If this is something you are interested in or if you just want to find out more, please get in touch.

**Prayerfully** - Prayer is the main way you can support the work we do. We believe joining us in prayer is the reason we see God blessing the ministry. To join our prayer team please email [info@KidsUK.org](mailto:info@KidsUK.org).

**Financially** - We are always in need of financial support and there are several ways for individuals or church groups to get behind the work we do. Whether it is a one-off donation or a monthly standing order, every little helps. Please get in touch and we will happily send you some more information about our partnership support.

