



SOUNDS OF INTENT

Report and Financial Statement
For the year ending 31 March 2019

Sounds of Intent

Administrative and reference details

For the year ended 31 March 2019

Charity number	1172441
Registered office	64a Princes Way, London SW19 6JF
Trustees	Adam Ockelford (Chair from 21 April 2017) Felicity Ockelford Tim Smith Johnny Stirling Simon Vincent Graham Welch
Bank	CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA
Independent examiner	Not required

Structure and governance

Sounds of Intent is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission on 6 April 2017.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

Objectives and activities

1. The objects of the CIO (as set out in the Constitution) are:

“for the public benefit, the promotion of the education of children, young people and members of the public generally, with a particular (but non-exclusive) focus on those with learning difficulties, through investigating, researching, developing and promoting educational, therapeutic and recreational strategies and resources that support and encourage the creative and aesthetic development of such people through the performing arts and in particular (but not exclusively) their understanding and appreciation of and engagement with music.”

2. The main Sounds of Intent online resource is to be found at www.soundsofintent.org. It is aimed at those who are working through music with children, young people adults who have learning difficulties. It provides information, downloadable resources, and an online assessment tool. Since its official public launch in February 2012, the Sounds of Intent platform has received over 8.63 million unique visitors from all over the world, with 1.89 million downloads of videos, resources and other documents. There currently over 750 registered practitioners from over 320 schools, with 5,280 pupils having been assessed and 18,776 session forms completed. The framework has been translated into a number of different languages, including Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese,

Urdu, Spanish and Dutch. The site was created and is managed by Dr Evangelos Himonides of UCL, currently pro bono.

3. A development of the main Sounds of Intent framework, for all children in the early years, is to be found at eysoi.org. This was developed as part of a Youth Music funded project – ‘Sounds of Intent in the Early Years’ -see below. Since the autumn 2015, the site has had 30,000 unique visitors, who have made 60,000 downloads of resources.

Projects and services

1. ‘AmberPlus’ Music Awards

This is the new service initiated by The Amber Trust in September 2018, aimed at families who have blind or partially sighted children with complex needs. Free online resources, based on the Sounds of Intent framework, were provided online, and a termly programme of visits is currently being taken up by 42 families.

2. ‘Music in Mind’ Phase 1 research project (children and young people with Batten disease)

Based at the Applied Music Research Centre at the University of Roehampton, a three-year project, ‘MIND: Phase 1’, funded by the Baily Thomas Foundation, investigated the impact of therapeutic and educational music interventions in the lives of 13 children and young people with Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis, commonly known as Batten disease.

In parallel with the MIND research project, data were gathered concerning the place and function of music in the lives of 105 adolescents and young adults with CLN3 (juvenile Batten disease) as part of an international project¹ with respondents from six European countries – Denmark, Finland, Germany, Norway, England and Scotland – and the USA. The symptoms of Batten disease include blindness, epilepsy with severe seizures, myoclonic jerks of limbs, difficulties in sleeping, the decline of speech, language and swallowing abilities, and the deterioration of fine and gross motor skills that eventually result in the complete loss of mobility. Those with the disease are also likely to suffer hallucinations and memory loss and, unsurprisingly, exhibit challenging behaviours.

The key findings of the two Batten disease projects, which was framed by Sounds of Intent thinking, were as follows:

1. Music can play a unique role in enriching the lives of children and young people with Batten disease. There are a number of reasons why this should be so:
 - a) The intuitive capacity to understand music declines more slowly than other cognitive abilities.
 - b) For young people with the juvenile form of Batten disease, listening to music becomes ever more important as a leisure pursuit as the disease advances and other recreational options diminish.
 - c) Even in the very late stages of neurodegeneration there is evidence that the facility to engage with music as a listener remains.
 - d) Active engagement in music, including the chance to learn to play an instrument, should be encouraged as early as possible.

¹Funded by the European Commission through Erasmus+ Grant No. 2014-1-NO01-KA200-000388.

- e) When children and young people no longer have the physical capacity to play conventional instruments, active participation in music-making should be sustainable through gesture-based music technology.
- f) For young people who could once speak, but in whom the capacity to use language expressively is declining, 'micro-songs' (short songs that incorporate functional language) can sustain the capacity to communicate through words longer than would otherwise be the case; at the same time, certain of the techniques used in neurologic music therapy can aid respiratory control and assist with controlling the pace of speech.
- g) Playing, singing and song writing (in particular) can offer young people a medium through which to access and articulate their feelings when other channels of emotional expression are occluded.
- h) Favourite pieces of music can be remembered when other forms of recollection diminish, and songs can be used to stimulate the recall of associated memories that would otherwise be inaccessible.
- i) Sound and music can be used symbolically to convey information about activities, places and people, potentially supporting children and young people's understanding, communication and choice-making.
- j) Music has the capacity to aid children and young people in regulating their emotions, and produce a sense of wellbeing.
- k) Music offers a unique form of social activity in which children and young people can engage with family members and friends, even in the most advanced stages of the disease.

Plans for the future

- 1.1 Following a successful pilot project with Trinity College London, in which over 100 children and young people were assessed and received certificates for their varying levels of musical engagement using the Sounds of Intent framework, talks are ongoing to make this a standard feature of Trinity's examination scheme.
- 1.2 A number of sets of materials based on Sounds of Intent for the families of children in the early years have now been produced or are in process:

Name of scheme	Focus	Status and comments
Little Amber	Visual impairment	Published by The Amber Trust www.ambertrust.org in 2017. Associated service up and running, with take up by 70 families. Associated with a set of songs freely available on The Amber Trust website – these are published as <i>Tuning In</i> by Jessica Kingsley.
IMAGINE (Ideas for Musical Resources and Games in the Early Years)	All children in the early years	The content for these resources was developed during a three-year Youth Music funded research and development project undertaken by Soundabout www.soundabout.org.uk , which completed in 2018. Taylor and Francis have expressed an interest in publishing the materials. A service for families could be delivered regionally through Music Hubs. The resources could be linked in to the 'Little Amber' songs available on The Amber Trust website. These may benefit from having accompanying videos, since

		most children are used to taking in material visually on screens.
IMAGINE: Autism	Autism	Resources are currently the focus of doctoral research by Caitlin Shaughnessy at the University of Roehampton, funded through SeNSS (ESRC), involving 32 families. Completion due 2021. Taylor and Francis have expressed an interest in publication. A voluntary organisation would need to be approached to set up and run an associated service. The resources are linked in to the 'Little Amber' songs available on The Amber Trust website. These would benefit from having accompanying videos, since most autistic children enjoy taking in material visually on screens.
Little Soundabout	Profound and multiple learning difficulties	The subject of a three-year Youth Music funded research and development project undertaken by Soundabout, due to complete summer 2022. Taylor and Francis have expressed an interest in publishing the materials. Soundabout will seeking funding to set up a 'Little Soundabout' service. The resources align with the 'AmbePlus' songs that are freely available on The Amber Trust website, and published as <i>Tuning In</i> by Jessica Kingsley.

1.3 In addition, resources for children and young people are available or are being developed with foci beyond the early years. The *Tuning In* cards, published by Jessica Kingsley, are used in the AmberPlus service for families that is run by The Amber Trust. A new service, called 'Soundabout Prime' is being developed with Youth Music funding, and will require new resources to be created too.

Financial statements

The charity is exempt from preparing a full statement of accounts under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011. Instead, the trustees have prepared –

(a) a receipts and payments account, and

(b) a statement of assets and liabilities.

(a) Statement of receipts and payments

For the year ended 31 March 2019

Income

Donations (1) £	Consultancy (2a) £	2018/2019 Total £
9,889	4,200	14,089

Expenditure

Governance (3) £	Administration £	Consultancy (2b) £	Bank charges £	2018/2019 Total £
3,267	632	8,369	60	12,328

Surplus/(Deficit)				1,761
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All funds are unrestricted.

(b) Statement of assets and liabilities

For the year ended 31 March 2019

Assets

£

Cash at bank 31 March 2019	8,559
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Liabilities

£

Consultancy fees	
Administration	
Legal fees	
Total	Nil

Notes**£**

(1) Donations:	London Business Forum	2,000
	Simon Vincent OBE	5,000
	Other	2,889
	Total	9,889

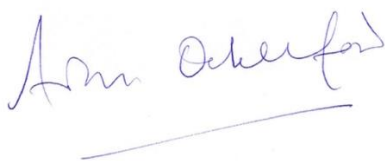
(2) Consultancy:

- a. Income – £4,000 from The Children’s Trust for one day per week to embed Sounds of Intent thinking in their practice, and to research the impact of Rett Syndrome on musical development and engagement. £200 one day consultancy at Bradstow School.

b. Expenditure:	Direct cost of consultancy income:	4,036
	Fees for moderating (Trinity College):	3,473
	PG Cert	387
	Other:	473
	Total:	8,369

(3) Governance:	Legal fees	2,934
	Insurance	333
	Total	3,267

Signed on behalf of the Board



Adam Ockelford

28th September 2019

Professor Adam Ockelford Phd ARAM

Chair of Trustees