

Impact Report

2025 - 2026



Healing Through Play



The Manor House, Little Wittenham, Oxfordshire, OX14 4RA
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Registered Charity No: 1140441 | Company Registration No: 7273425

Our Rainbow Values

**We are
a mindful
team**

**We are
playful**

**We
create safe
spaces**

**We
never, ever
give up**

**We let
every child
shine**



A message from our Charity Director



Clear Sky - How to Spin Plates and win prizes!

Another year here at Clear Sky comes to a close. As we look back at our events and achievements, it's hard to imagine that all of the things we have done have happened in just 12 months!

In August 2025 we were already ahead of ourselves with planning our third Power of Play Conference. April 2026 seemed a long way off and we gave ourselves the luxury of plenty of time to create a really special event. We were pleased that the outcome was indeed a great day, and so were our delegates who were very generous with their evaluation and praise!



We've welcomed many new schools on board this year, and celebrate continuing partnerships with a great number of our original partners. One of our key achievements this year has been the re-launch of our new 'Emotionally Healthy Schools' online platform, aimed at supporting ALL schools. Designed by us, the platform contains core mental health learning, research, classroom resources, self-care, tools for senior leaders and an online peer community. We are proud to have gifted this platform to all of our partner schools, and were thrilled that many schools decided to take the opportunity to undertake additional advanced training upon completion of the core learning provided. None of this would have been possible without the generous grants given to Clear Sky by Oxfordshire's Step Change and Well Together funds.

Our online courses remain popular with therapists, although we are strengthening the provision for more face-to-face training both here in Oxfordshire and beyond. Demand continues for in-person and online Baby Bonding and PCAP courses, and we are pleased to announce that Heart to Heart will also now be made available online by 2027, with our thanks to The Persula Foundation, who are kindly funding this development.

We've taken on more newly qualified therapists this year to support our established team and are delighted to be offering our NEW Animal Assisted Play Therapy[®] from September.

My thanks go to all of our kind and generous supporters, funders, friends, therapists, families and staff for enabling Clear Sky to lead the way in 'Healing Through Play'. There are too many achievements to list here overall, but I hope that this Impact Report for 2025/26 gives a flavour of how your donations are spent, and encourages you to keep supporting us into 2026/27.

Thank you! Anna Hodgson

Our Team



Who's Who at Clear Sky HQ

Our Head Office Team comprises of:

- **Anna Hodgson** - Captain of Clear Sky (Charity Director)
- **Becky Hill** - Head of Therapeutic Thinking / Dramatherapist
- **Jess Haynes** - The Play Maker (Digital Services Manager)
- **Stephanie Treadwell** - The Ringmaster (Operations Manager)
- **Decca Warrington** - Playground Monitor (Therapeutic Services Manager) / Play Therapist

Our Therapeutic Team

Our amazing therapeutic team are all qualified in Play Therapy, Dramatherapy, Art Therapy, Music Therapy or Counselling and Child Psychotherapy. Our therapists are highly experienced and work tirelessly to meet the needs of children through the delivery of our therapeutic services.

Our Board of Trustees

Our dedicated Board of Trustees oversee the strategy, governance and implementation of our charitable objectives, supporting the Head Office team to deliver Clear Sky's vision. We are grateful to our Board for representing Clear Sky and for maintaining its governance and values.

A message from our Board of Trustees

We are all proud to support and work with Clear Sky as the work consistently demonstrates integrity, evidence informed practice and a genuine dedication to the children, families and professionals it serves. Evidence shows that Play and Creative Arts Therapy is extremely helpful in improving the mental wellbeing of children who are undergoing a difficult stage in their lives.

As Trustees, our values closely align with those of Clear Sky in meeting and working with people with care, building trust and creating environments where growth becomes possible.

Clear Sky has continued to provide help where it is needed, despite the charity funding landscape remaining uncertain, and our thanks go to Anna and the team who do so much to help produce such excellent results.

Fundraising



2025 - 2026

- We exceeded our fundraising target of **£42,000**.
- This was achieved through fundraising events, corporate donations, trusts and grants, resourcefulness and pro bono support.

2026 - 2027

- We have exciting plans afoot for 2026-2027 and our fundraising target for next year will be **£36,000**.
- Our charitable revenue enables us to offer all of our therapeutic provision at a significant subsidy.



Corporate Social Responsibility

We are very pleased indeed to be supported by Croft Associates Limited, Culham, who have generously donated funds to us, enabling us to purchase essential supplies for our frontline therapists.

Croft Associates Limited specialises in all aspects of the packaging and transport of radioactive materials. Anna was very pleased to meet Abbie from the organisation recently and share information about our work in the local community, which Croft were keen to support in turn as Corporate partners.

You can read more about Croft's work here: <http://www.croftltd.com/>

Clear Sky's aims are to enable all children to have access to age-appropriate, good mental health support. If your organisation shares our vision and if you would like to join Croft Ltd in supporting us, we'd love to have you on board!



If you are interested in supporting our work as a corporate partner via payroll giving, social investment or sponsorship, please get in touch for more details or an informal discussion.

info@clear-sky.org.uk | 01865 362789

We would love to hear from you!



Please follow us on social media
@ClearSkyCharity

Keeping children safe in education

The Scale of the Problem

Investment in early relationships and infant mental health is both an effective preventative strategy and a robust economic decision. The report estimates the value of specialised support to each child across their whole lifetime of over £40,000 per child.

Centre for Mental Health 2026



Up to 45% of UK babies may have insecure or disorganised attachment, with higher rates where families face poverty, trauma or poor mental health.

Parent Infant Foundation 2025

Mental ill health costs England approximately £300 billion annually, including £45 billion borne by employers.

Centre for Mental Health 2025

£300bn



Around one in five young people aged 8 to 25 report a diagnosable common mental health problem, such as anxiety and depression.

Future Minds 2025



There has been a particularly alarming rise in poor mental health among girls and young women, with young women aged 17-25 now experiencing twice the rates of common mental health problems as young men of the same age.

Future Minds 2025



2,000,000

Around two million children and young people have mental health needs that are not being met, and most NHS services can only support those with the most pressing and severe needs.

Future Minds 2025

According to NHS England's Mental Health Dashboard, there were 2,268 hospital admissions for 0-17-year-olds in 2023/24...

NHS 2025



Our Mission

How Clear Sky Help

- We offer a range of therapeutic services for children and their families, teachers and other professionals, whilst keeping the child and play at the heart of everything we do
- We are experts in child-led Play & Creative Arts Therapy and our training is based on the very latest research
- We offer flexibility and best value to schools
- We have a significant impact on children's wellbeing and behaviour
- We contribute to research as members of a number of bodies and Parliamentary groups and we are home to the Oxfordshire Schools Mental Health and Wellbeing Network



1700+

Therapy sessions took place between September 2025 - August 2026.

18

We worked to a minimum of 18 sessions on average per client although some interventions require longer

95

Children and young people were supported by a Clear Sky Therapist this year in one to one and group sessions.

13

Clear Sky Play & Creative Arts Therapists supported children, families and staff in schools.

Joined up Partnerships

We've been out and about a lot this year, forming new partnerships and nurturing old ones. The consistent message is that we do all need to work together in the mental health and wellbeing sector to help to achieve our collective aims. Thank you to all of our partners who are helping to create a much more joined up service for families and children!



Our Services



Therapy Services for Schools

Supporting children with Play & Creative Arts Therapy in Schools

Clear Sky provides services to schools across the breadth of Oxfordshire and the surrounding counties. We provide a mix of 1:1 and group therapy to children who have experienced a traumatic life event, and those who may be experiencing an emotional or behavioural issue at home, or in school.

Our brilliant team of qualified play and creative arts therapists support children through child-led, age-appropriate sessions to explore past trauma using play as a metaphor, where words are not appropriate for young children.

Our work doesn't stop there. We also work with the schools, parents and carers to provide sustained care strategies for long term good mental health.

What our schools say



"The children have developed social and emotional skills, and more able to respond healthily to situations that they previously found challenging. They are more engaged in school work and have improved sense of self."

therapy sessions delivered in the last 9 years by Clear Sky

16,573

"The child has been much more settled both in and out of the classroom. I have not had to manage any behaviour issues, whereas previously, I had been involved fairly frequently."

"Staff acknowledge the positive impact on individual children. They feel supported by the therapist when they have questions."

"We have only started sessions recently but M is already so happy coming to sessions and verbalises how much she enjoys them."

"Thank you for your friendly approach... It is a wonderful service."

A focus on... Baby Bonding



A collaborative project with Elizabeth House

We were really pleased to welcome Clear Sky's Baby Bonding course at Elizabeth House. As a nursery, we are passionate about supporting children as individuals, while also supporting their families and the wider community, and this course fitted well with that aim.

Before the course began, I had understood Clear Sky's work to be more focused on mental health, specialist one-to-one support, and older children. Seeing the Baby Bonding course in practice helped me realise how much Clear Sky also offers in early years, group-based support, and more holistic family support.

The course was not what I had initially expected. Rather than being overly formal, clinical, or theory-heavy, it was playful, relational, interactive, and accessible. The information was shared in a manageable way, without overwhelming parents, and the songs, props, practical activities, and relaxed structure helped bring the course to life.

The parents who attended really benefited from the reassurance, connection, and practical support offered. The course gave them confidence in how to understand and respond to their babies, and it was clear that the sessions were adapted sensitively to meet the needs of the individual parents and families in the room.

I would recommend Baby Bonding to other nursery settings, and I also think it could be valuable for health visitors and other professionals working directly with families, particularly where parents may need additional support, reassurance, or connection. I also feel there would be real value in nursery staff learning from this work, as even brief opportunities to observe or engage with the approach were beneficial.

Baby Bonding supports parents to be the best they can be by offering support that is not always regularly available. It helps families build confidence, strengthen bonds, and feel supported in their relationship with their baby.

Kim Knight, Nursery Manager, Elizabeth House



Elizabeth House
Day Nursery & Preschool



clear-sky.org.uk



info@clear-sky.org.uk

Emotionally Healthy Schools



THE online resource for whole school learning



Our 'Emotionally Healthy Schools' platform is an online, on-demand resource, supporting WHOLE SCHOOLS to effectively understand, direct and maintain positive emotional health.

Our transformative online platform delivers high quality CPD accredited skills to teachers, giving them the confidence to respond appropriately to the diverse mental health demands in the classroom.

What's included:

- **Online training** in our established and tested 'Space to Shine' programme that builds core knowledge and skills to help staff to understand 'What Children Need'
- **Information** on where to find additional support
- Ready-made **Assembly Modules**
- **Practical Resources** to help teachers
- **Research** to help to underpin knowledge
- **Parent Resources**
- An **Online Community**
- **Tools for Senior Leaders**
- **Self-Care** resources to support staff wellbeing
- **Advanced Learning** options for those who want to adopt and practice more detailed attachment-based skills

'I'd describe Emotionally Healthy Schools as a comprehensive, accessible platform that helps schools take a proactive approach to emotional wellbeing. It offers high-quality resources, guidance and training that are relevant across the whole school community, making it easier for staff to feel confident in supporting children's mental health'

'Overall I think they are great courses with examples of regular struggles and challenges that are faced in the classroom across the school. I really enjoyed it.'

50+

schools have access to our FRAMEWORK of support

Our Services



Support for Families

Supporting parents / carers to use child-led play to promote emotional wellbeing for their children

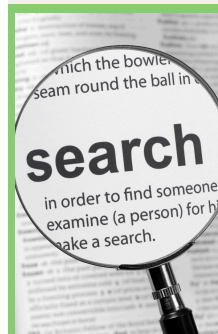
We offer a number of parenting support programmes in the community which support families from birth to early adulthood. In 2025/2026 we provided training to **147 practitioners** all over the UK and overseas who are now skilled to deliver family support programmes in their communities.

Our parenting courses enable families to develop resilience, confidence and the skills to form secure attached relationships.

This year we launched a series of FREE parent resources emailed direct to every parent/carer who subscribes. Aimed to strengthen parent-child attachment, these resources are divided into easy-to-access series':

- **Fun in 5!** - playful games and activities for parents to do with their child using things from around the home
- **Let's Play! Games** - more fun games to try
- **Let's Play! Practical Tips** - exploring some of the day-to-day challenges parents might face
- **The Importance of ... and A focus on ...** looking more closely at the science behind children's development

Local Support



Our online Directory has **over 135 Attachment Play Practitioners** supporting families and children in their local community.

978

sign ups so far!

Our Services



Professional Development for Therapists

Training professional practitioners to support children and families' emotional wellbeing



We continue to deliver courses at volume both online and face to face in partnership with several organisations including the NHS across the UK.

182

Professionals were trained in our CPD accredited practitioner training courses between August 2025 and July 2026.

Facilitator Training

We are pleased to have the lovely Clear Sky therapist Kez Black undertake our Attachment Play training facilitation for us! Kez has been busy in training with Jacqui Shankly, and has co-delivered Baby Bonding training as well as running some local Baby Bonding groups here in Oxford, to get up to speed on the front line before we send her off to train more professionals!

If you want to learn about delivering Clear Sky's courses like Kez, just get in touch!

Mentoring

Along with Jacqui, Becky, our Head of Therapy, and Ruth, our partner from BTLT Ireland have all been busy delivering group mentoring for our new overseas partners this year and our new ACAP teachers. Becky had some very early morning starts to help support our new cohort in Australia.

Together, they mentored 47 Attachment Play Practitioners in 2025/6!

47

Our Licensed Partners

We are delighted to be working with our accredited partners in Ireland and in other regions across the country. Our licensed colleagues deliver our suite of Attachment Play professional training and provide mentoring and support as well as delivering therapeutic work within their regions.

Big Toes Little Toes Ireland

Linsey McNelis and Ruth McDonagh



In November 2025 we travelled to Drogheda in Co. Louth to train 13 practitioners in Heart to Heart. It was a fun-filled interactive weekend and we are delighted for the families who will benefit from this group's passion for this programme.

In June 2026 we were delighted to travel to Duleek in Co. Meath to train 10 practitioners in Parent-Child Attachment Play. We were thrilled to have participants travel from Co. Donegal and from Romania for this training.

We will continue to run trainings for organisations and groups in Ireland who contact us and are happy to travel to their venues.

Linsey and Ruth



 **big toes little toes**
Ireland

Our 2026 Conference



Sensorimotors and more...

Our third 'Power of Play' event was held in April.

Our previous conference events had both taken place in the Autumn, but feedback indicated that delegates would prefer a longer day and the chance to get outdoors.

We were fortunate to secure Milton Hill House in Oxford for the event and were able to shape our theme and programme around 'movement' and 'the outdoors'.

Our programme was carefully designed with a focus this year on Early-Years' development, and we could think of no better keynote speaker than our friend, Sarah Lloyd of **The BUSS Model**, and her co-presenter, Vicky Holland.

Around 60 delegates gathered for Sarah's inspirational and uplifting morning talk on 'Building Underused Sensorimotor Systems' and the effect that early movement has on later development. Sarah utilised some inspiring movement-based activities within the room to demonstrate how the simplest of movement can be a challenge for many children.

Sarah and Vicky presented a range of sensorimotor games and activities which allowed delegates to experience and consider different approaches to help support those developmental steps which may otherwise be mistaken for behavioural issues, and Vicky provided us with a personal insight into her lived experience with using The BUSS Model, to transform her own child's life experience.

After lunch, we were treated to a range of hands on workshops, from Rhythmic Drumming with Ray Watters of Drum with Us, to Risky Play outside with Sarah Lawful of 'Where the Fruit Is'. Delegates could choose 2 of 4 workshops during the afternoon.

We rounded off the afternoon with a plenary from the fascinating **Dr Dan Wuori**, who live-streamed from California for us.

Feedback has been consistently **5*** again, a testament to the rich and informative content and the superb organisation by the Clear Sky Team on the day!

Institute for Play and Attachment



Institute
for Play
and Attachment

Our online learning hub for professionals

The institute for Play and Attachment (IPA) goes from strength to strength, attracting members from across the UK and beyond.

With a curated learning area, research library, resources bank, self-care hub and online community, the Institute for Play and Attachment welcomes all therapists and therapeutic professionals working with children and families.

“Great, value for money CPD”

“Thank you very much. I am glad I found IPA “

“The platform is full of relevant and valuable training, which I can easily access whenever I need to”

“Thank you for this learning experience which I can take forward and use in my work.”

“The content is aligned with my practice and helps to further my knowledge”

CPD Accredited!

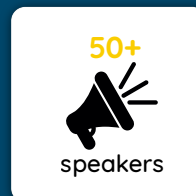
IPA is now accredited by The CPD Standards Office, giving members up to **12 CPD points per year** and even greater value for money.



Further Learning



We launched our **Associate Learning Directory** filled with further training opportunities from our IPA experts.



in numbers

To join the IPA community please visit www.clear-sky.org.uk

Campaigning and celebrating

We have been out and about again this year to see many new and old colleagues at a range of conferences, talks, events and fundraisers.



We were thrilled to participate again in the third **Didcot Youth Festival** this Summer.

Attended by over 450 people, the event provided totally FREE activities for Didcot's young people. We ran the Green Room - a therapeutic and calm space which was very well attended by Didcot's marvellous young community.



Get  Radio



Anna thoroughly enjoyed speaking to **Talk Radio** and sharing the Clear Sky story with local listeners. We are so lucky to have such great advocates in Oxfordshire helping us to share our work!

Our team attended many events this year, including the **Robin Network**, several **LCSS events**, **Didcot Community** meetings, events in the **Leys** and more.

We were pleased to be invited once more to the **Propellor Trust** meeting at the Kassam where we shared our FREE parenting resources and more with many parents.



Our marvellous friends at **Didcot Community Gospel Choir** held their Christmas concert for our benefit and raised a whopping £1,200 for Clear Sky. A truly lovely group of people and an incredible choir too!



Learning and sharing



Looking after our team is a core part of Clear Sky's ethos and we could think of no better way to support our therapy team than through a **Rest Workshop** kindly provided by our own therapist, Victoria. Followed by a team lunch, we were glad to reinforce the importance of self-care in our sector.

We were invited by the NEU again in November 2025 to provide a therapeutic training to their members. Becky presented our **Emotional Regulation in the Classroom workshop** to many newly qualified teachers.



In May we were pleased to have the therapy team back at HQ for a professional training session.

On this occasion we were delighted to welcome **Paul Isaacs** who delivered his '**Autism as a Fruit Salad**' comprehensive session. It was an incredible, and insightful day.

Christmas Fun!

Our HQ team enjoyed a wonderful Christmas day out at **Blenheim Palace**. We enjoyed the light trail, beautiful decorations and Christmas Market. Complete with a lovely hot chocolate, we had a grand day out!



Didcot Powerhouse invited Clear Sky to exhibit at their annual celebration event at the Cornerstone Arts Centre.

Didcot Powerhouse is a wonderful collaboration of local enterprises working together to support Didcot residents. We made several new partners and friends.



Our Partners and Supporters



Sharing our vision and supporting our aims

Our Strategic and Corporate Partners



Our Memberships



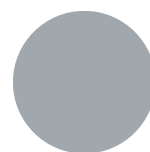
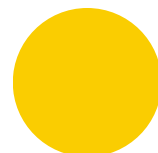
A special thank you to Lady Wood for her huge generosity in offering us a practical office and meeting space within the beautiful grounds of The Manor House.

Our Partners and Supporters

Trusts, Grants and Donors

Abingdon Fine Arts Society
Arts Society Goring on Thames
Bartlett Taylor Charitable Trust
Berkshire Nurses Relief in Sickness Trust
Croft Associates Ltd
Didcot Community Gospel Choir
Doris Field Charitable Trust
GivTo
Marsh Charitable Trust
PF Charitable Trust
Root One Garden Centre
Shanly Foundation
SOHA Community Grants
Souter Charitable Trust
Step Change (Oxfordshire Community Foundation)
The Champniss Charitable Trust

The Clothworkers' Foundation
The Cooper Charitable Trust
The Helianthus Charitable Trust
The James Tudor Foundation
The Michael and Anna Wix Charitable Trust
The Mrs Yvonne Flux Charitable Trust
The Oxfordshire Lord-Lieutenant's Grant
The Persula Foundation
The Samuel Storey Family Charitable Trust
The Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust
The Stanton Ballard Charitable Trust
The Vandervell Foundation
Turners Court Youth Trust
TK Maxx and Homesense Foundation
Wallingford and District Rotary Club
Well Together (OCVA and Community First Oxfordshire)
Wise Music Foundation



Thank you to our individual donors and all those who donated anonymously through our online giving platforms and to those who gave their time to help us this year as volunteers!



clear-sky.org.uk



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Get in touch



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Please follow us on
social media
@ClearSkyCharity

This Impact Report is
produced in house by
our small Head Office team.



We welcome all grants and donations,
however small.

Every penny gifted to Clear Sky helps us to
deliver the therapeutic services that we offer.
Our small and dedicated team work hard to
deliver services for children across the UK.

We would love to have your support!

TEXT PLAY TO 70255

TO DONATE **£5** TO CLEAR SKY CHILDREN'S CHARITY



You must be 16 or over and have the bill payer's permission.
Each text to this number costs **£5** plus your standard network
message charge (based on your service provider rates).

Clear Sky Children's Charity is a charity registered in England
with charity number 1140441. For full terms and conditions and
more information, please visit clear-sky.org.uk/terms

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