

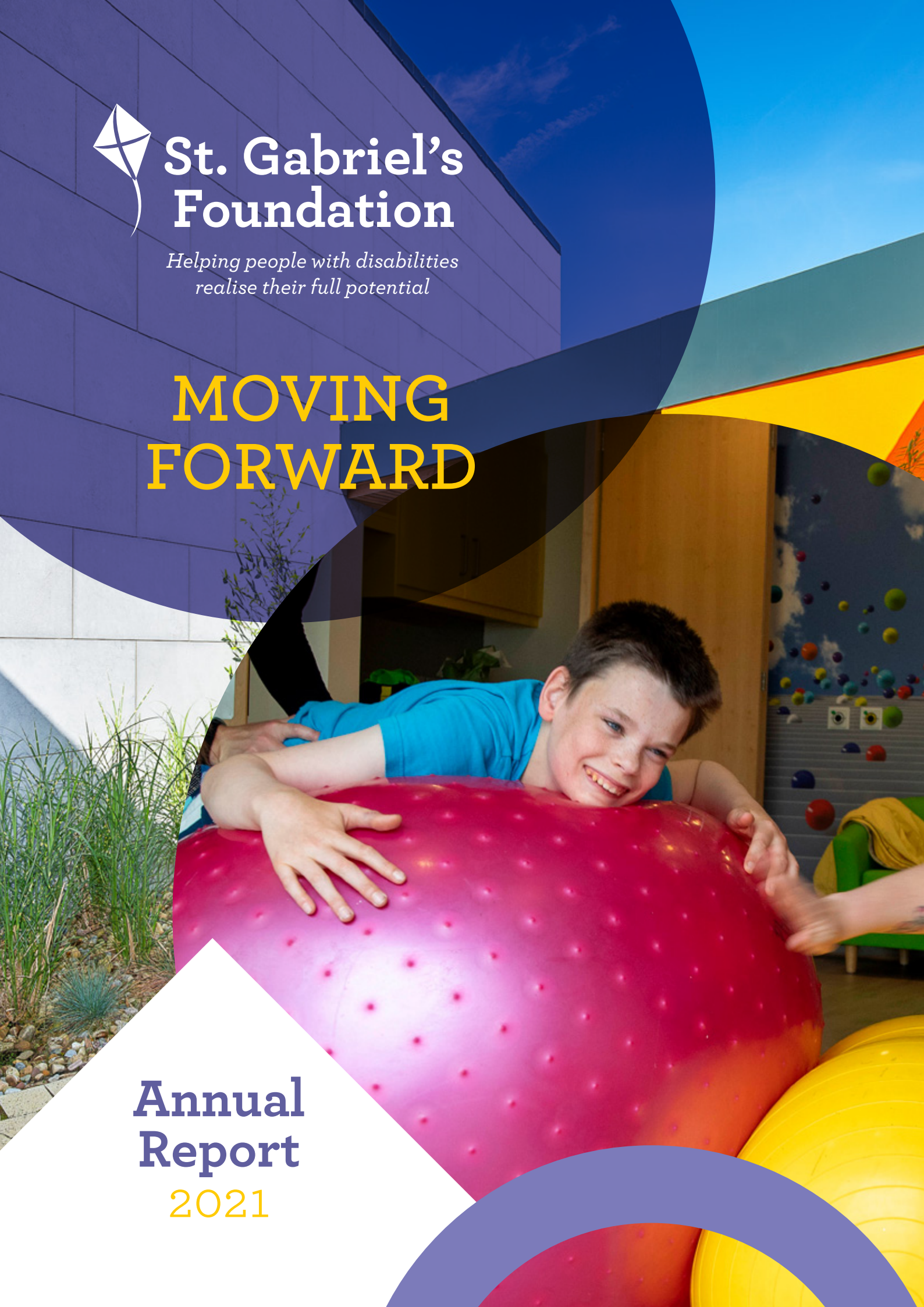


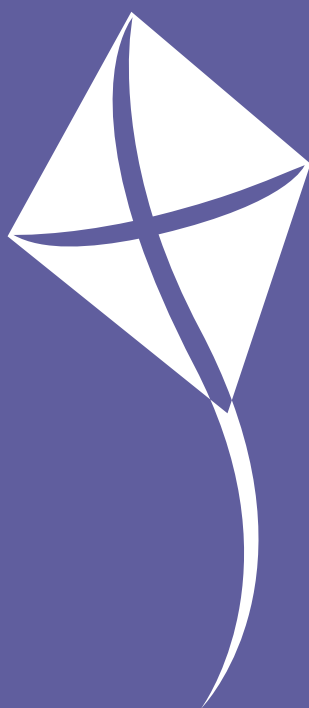
# St. Gabriel's Foundation

*Helping people with disabilities  
realise their full potential*

## MOVING FORWARD

**Annual  
Report**  
2021





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## Message from the Chairperson and CEO

On behalf of the Board of St. Gabriel's Foundation we are pleased to present the 2021 Annual Report and Financial Statements.

2021 began with a sense of foreboding as the country embarked on another lockdown period and schools remained closed. In spite of these drawbacks, St. Gabriel's was determined to make 2021 matter and it certainly did just that.

Springtime brought a glimmer of hope with it, as we received news in February that the Hydrotherapy Pool was permitted to open, albeit with heavy restrictions in place. Hydrotherapy acted as a lifeline for parents and their children who were struggling at home as schools were closed and there were little to no other activities during this time. As the Hydrotherapy service is run as a social enterprise, we were very conscious of the unmet cost of keeping the pool maintained even when operating at less than full capacity. Once again, funding allocated by the government for pools during the year helped to offset these deficits.

School closures remained in place until April and families were worried about letting their children with complex physical and medical needs back into the school setting as vaccines were not yet available to all. This was a very difficult time for families even though we did our utmost to support them.

The Orthotics Clinic continued to be operational but at a much-reduced capacity.

Summer brought expected joy as core funding for the Children's Respite House was finally delivered. In June 2021, St. Gabriel's Children's Respite House welcomed its first overnight guests. The government pledged support to fund the service for 5/7 nights and we will work hard in the coming year to lobby the Government to get this to 7/7 nights. As we come to the end of 2021, we know how much this service means to the families who are receiving it, because they have told us so. Families who were at breaking point have a rejuvenated spirit because they were

listened to, and their needs were met. That is the ethos of St. Gabriel's - to respond to the needs of the families.

We wish to acknowledge the support we received in the form of government grants released during the pandemic to support various therapy programmes and other initiatives. Grant funding enabled our therapists to continuously adapt to deliver a hybrid service model and to provide vital remote therapy to children and families who were very vulnerable during this time. Government support was critical to our sector during the year, and it highlighted the important role played by non-profits, community and voluntary agencies.

As stewards of public funding and public donations, St. Gabriel's is very cognisant of the need for good, strong governance. The Board of Directors of St. Gabriel's work to the standards as set out by the National Governance Code and strive for an effective and efficiently run organisation.

Our Board of Directors give their time voluntarily and serve in the best interests of all who receive a range of services from St. Gabriel's. We would like to thank our Board subcommittees for their input to guide and direct our strategy and decision-making processes. The Board of Directors also serve as the Patron body for St. Gabriel's School.

The Board is tremendously proud of how the organisation and our staff adapted to continue to support families throughout the challenges of the pandemic. When we look back, we learned so much about ourselves and the incredible families we work with. Our staff showed huge resilience and this is a quality we continue to foster within the ever-changing landscape of disability services.

We are especially grateful to everyone for the wonderful support we received throughout 2021 and would like to acknowledge and thank all our donors whose loyalty to St. Gabriel's over the years has helped fund the vital work we do.

Every volunteer answered the call to help during this uncertain period. There was never a “No” – there was always a way.

St. Gabriel's is a progressive organisation and in the latter part of 2021, St. Gabriel's tendered - and was awarded - to be the Lead Agency for a second Children's Disability Network Team, which will be based in South City. We look forward to letting you know how this team develops in next year's Annual Report.

2021 saw the retirement of key staff and Board members who oversaw so many successful projects throughout their tenures.

On behalf of the Board and the staff of St. Gabriel's we would like to extend a fond farewell and sincere thanks to Máire O'Leary who steered this ship for 30 years. Her legacy will live on through all the services she delivered to families who needed them.

But looking forward now - St. Gabriel's is always planning ahead responding to the needs of the families and people we are working with. We have some exciting developments in the pipeline, which we will hopefully be able to share with you next year.



Richard Leonard  
Chairperson



Treasa McAuliffe  
CEO



# Building the Foundation 1961- 2021



1961

Limerick Handicapped Children's Committee was founded



1978

St. Gabriel's School recognised by the Dept of Education & Skills



2003  
& 2005

St. Gabriel's Treehouse Early Intervention and School Age Teams



2018

St. Gabriel's Children's Respite House



2009

St. Gabriel's Hydrotherapy Pool



2008

St. Gabriel's Orthotic Services



2019

Funding received from the HSE towards the appointment of Children's Respite House nurse manager and specialist equipment



2020

Minister Anne Rabbitte T.D., Minister for Disability visited St. Gabriel's Children's Respite House in October. The Minister committed funding to enable this much needed service to open in 2021.



2021

St. Gabriel's Children's Respite House is officially opened by Minister of State, Anne Rabbitte TD. The first overnight guests were welcomed in June 2021.

# The Story of Us Who We Are & What We Do

St. Gabriel's was founded in 1961. It is a not-for-profit organisation and registered charity governed by a voluntary Board of Directors. St. Gabriel's Foundation Headquarters is situated in Dooradoyle hosting a number of different services. St. Gabriel's Foundation provides core services for children and young adults with disabilities and their families. It also provides Orthotic Services and Hydrotherapy services to children, young adults and adults.

**Treehouse Children's Disability Network Teams** (CDNT) provides a range of specialist services and therapeutic programmes to children with disabilities in the Midwest. During the pandemic the teams supported families by staying connected through the use of technology and our therapists continued to deliver essential services and programmes to families. At the end of 2021, St. Gabriel's was awarded the Lead Agency for a second CDNT that will serve the South City. In addition to this increase in clients attending, the catchment area for services changed in 2021 and St. Gabriel's are now providing services to families closer to the Limerick/Cork border. St. Gabriel's intends to develop an outreach service for families living close to the Cork border.

**St. Gabriel's School** is a special school for children 4-18 years of age with physical and multiple disabilities. A dedicated nursing department is adjacent to the school.

Our other community-based services include a purpose-built **Hydrotherapy Pool** for therapy and rehabilitation purposes. A nominal fee is charged to clients to cover running costs on the pool. The Hydrotherapy Pool is also open to members of the public and various community groups. The Hydrotherapy Pool was built with funding received from the JP McManus Golf

Pro Am, donations and proceeds raised from a range of community fundraising events over many years.

A specialist **Orthotics Department** provides orthotic devices to clients. Both the Hydrotherapy Pool and Orthotics Clinic operate as social enterprises. This means they engage in trading activity and operate on a commercial basis to ensure financial sustainability. Any profit generated from the social enterprises goes back into supporting and enhancing the services.

Both enterprises are essential to children with disabilities and to people in the wider community who benefit greatly from using them.

St. Gabriel's most recent development is a 6-bedroom Regional Children's Respite House located in Mungret that was designed and built to provide overnight and short-term respite to families of children with significant disabilities and complex medical needs. St. Gabriel's is proud to report that this facility received its first overnight guests in June 2021. St. Gabriel's was initially granted funding to operate this service for 5/7 nights but we intend to get this to 7/7 nights in the coming year.

Also located on the Dooradoyle campus is the Central Remedial Clinic (CRC), who provide a seating and assistive technology clinic to clients.

## Our Mission

Our mission is to support people with disabilities to reach their full potential.

## Our Values

Our values are reflected in the daily work we do and provide the basis of all our communication with people in our services.



## St. Gabriel's Service Delivery Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT)

The Treehouse CDNT is located at Springfield Drive, Dooradoyle. In 2021, the Treehouse team met with 846 children and their families. Currently clinical therapy services are provided to children from 0-18 years. The CDNT's provide families with an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). This plan documents the needs of the individual child and sets out what services are needed to meet these needs. Once the plan is agreed, the therapists, family and child work together to achieve these goals.

The growth in services from 653 in 2020 to 846 in 2021 was partly due to the change in the catchment area for services. St. Gabriel's are now providing services to families closer to the Limerick/Cork border. As a direct response to the needs of these families an outreach premises was secured and is currently being developed in Charleville in order to support families who were living near the border area. Quite often families would need a large amount of time to travel in from the county bounds to Dooradoyle to make their appointments. For example, it could take a family travelling from Kilbeheny, Co. Limerick nearly 90 minutes to travel in for an appointment. After the appointment, they would have to make the same journey home. That could be 4-5 hours in total for just one appointment.

They would also have to get childcare for their other children at extra cost to themselves. Often children would be tired after such a journey, and this would affect their therapy session. In consultation with parents, an outreach service was deemed the best course of action for accessing therapies.

The opening of the Respite House in June 2021 meant that many of the families that we were working with would now be in receipt of nurse-led respite care. This was a watershed moment for St. Gabriel's as the campaign to get this service open was hard-fought, but the reward was well and truly worth it. The benefits of this service cannot be underestimated. It is a win-win for all involved.

At the end of 2021, St. Gabriel's tendered for - and was awarded - the Lead Agency role to manage a second CDNT to be based in South City.

The projected service users for the first year will be approximately 200. We look forward to reporting on this new development in next year's Annual Report.

### Treehouse Team growth from 2018- 2021





# Team Work

## Working together to Progress Disability Services

### Staff representing St. Gabriel's Foundation at the 2021 Association of Occupational Therapists of Ireland (AOTI) virtual conference

Patrick Hynes, Senior Occupational Therapist, Maria Gomes, Senior Clinical Psychologist, and Fiona Woods, Senior Speech and Language Therapist presented at the Association of Occupational Therapists of Ireland (AOTI) conference that was held virtually on 8th and 9th October 2021. They presented a poster titled: *"Offline, online...here we go!" Delivering telehealth training programmes to parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) during the Covid-19 pandemic: An interdisciplinary approach between Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy and Psychology in a Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT)"*.

Bridget Long, Senior Occupational Therapist, and Patrick Hynes, Senior Occupational Therapist also presented a paper at the conference titled: *"Sharing Occupational Therapy knowledge in the primary school setting - an initiative to answer Occupational Therapy questions posed by teachers"*. Both the poster and paper presentations highlight some of the work and research that is completed by the Treehouse Children's Disability Network Team at St. Gabriel's Foundation.

### Gross Motor Skills developed through cycling at St. Gabriel's

Children attending St. Gabriel's got an opportunity to test out various bike types during Bike Week, which was run in conjunction with Limerick City and County Council. Therapists from the Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Departments worked with children to get them to experience cycling. For some children it was their first time being on a bike and for others it was an opportunity to experience other cycle types. Cycling has many positive benefits for children of all abilities. It is a great form of physical exercise, builds confidence and social skills as well as developing gross motor skills. A big thank you to all the families who participated in this workshop, Cycle Instructor, Kieron Selley and Gary Allen from cycle supplier, John Prescott.



## St. Gabriel's Orthotic Services

Orthotics is a branch of healthcare that deals with the provision and use of artificial devices such as splints and braces. Orthotics assist children and adults who present with a variety of physical difficulties arising from a number of conditions, some of which include; cerebral palsy, spina bifida, stroke, diabetes, and arthritis.

In 2021 St. Gabriel's Orthotics accommodated 3,557 appointments for children and adults across the Midwest. 80% of these appointments involved providing orthoses for children with significant needs where orthotic treatments assisted with gait, posture, prevention of joint contractures and reduction of scoliotic spinal curvature.

The Orthotics Clinic is a social enterprise – this means it is an organisation whose core objective is to achieve a social, societal or environmental impact.

Throughout the pandemic St. Gabriel's Orthotics remained operational and provided an emergency-based orthotics service for children and adults requiring urgent reviews.

Orthotic devices are essential for enabling gait or alleviating pain in certain conditions.

The pandemic was certainly a challenging time for the clinic, but we are solution-focused, so we worked to surmount any obstacles that lay before us. As an essential service we made every effort to remain operational for our service users. During periods of the highest restrictions, we operated drive through clinics on the St. Gabriel's campus and held clinics outdoors, and as restrictions eased, we recommenced clinics indoors but at a reduced capacity, whilst adhering to strict infection control protocols.

Being able to offer this service to people in the Mid-West is remarkable, considering this service was only being provided from Dublin, Cork and Galway up until 2008. All of this is down to the vision of St Gabriel's and their mission to provide services that families could readily access on their doorstep.

St. Gabriel's Orthotics Clinic provides a world-class service and we are able to alter our orthotics on-site, an advantage for clients to avoid lengthy delays in receiving their bespoke orthotics.

The Orthotics Clinic is looking forward to expanding to see more children and adults in the coming years.



# St. Gabriel's Hydrotherapy Pool

Unfortunately, Covid 19 was high on the agenda in January 2021 and had a significant impact on the running of the Hydrotherapy Pool. Due to an increase in Covid 19 cases nationally early in 2021, the Hydrotherapy Pool could only open in a very limited capacity keeping the health and safety of our service users and staff at the forefront at all times.

Pool sessions had very limited numbers and priority was given to children that attended St Gabriel's school and services. The pool became a very important outlet for these parents and children as schools and activities had shut down at this time and the pool became the only activity a lot of the children could continue to attend.

We continued to run a one-way system in and out of the Hydrotherapy Pool area and minimised people overlapping in the changing rooms, keeping people in separate changing areas when Covid numbers were very high. Ventilation was also very important to prevent the spread of Covid-19 so windows and doors (where possible) were open when the building was in use.

Following national public health advice and advice from the swimming governing body Swim Ireland, in March 2021 we reopened for some public sessions. At first these sessions reopened with reduced numbers allowed in the pool. This impacted significantly on the pool's ability to generate an income as a large portion of the pool revenue is generated by the pool public sessions and group rental income. The pool running costs such as the heating of the pool and staffing costs remained high during this time, so with reduced pool revenue, this was a very challenging time trying to overcome those obstacles.

This continued for the first half of 2021.

June 2021, saw the return of some of our private groups such as Water Babies. They had not used the pool since March 2020. It was heartening to see them back in the pool.

In August 2021, Water Babies ran a very successful week-long tutor training course in the pool. This involved training tutors from all over Ireland to allow them to teach Water Babies classes.

It was September 2021 before there was a return of more of our private and school groups and increased numbers were allowed in our public sessions. St Gabriel's swim lessons also resumed at this time. Pool numbers in the sessions were still operating at about 50% capacity as per guidelines at that time but there were positive gradual increases in pool activity in the latter half of 2021.

The demand for the pool increased toward the end of 2021 but was still substantially down on previous years before the Covid 19 pandemic.

The Glofox app booking management system was introduced in July 2020. This has made the booking system for the pool much more efficient by effective management of pool numbers. For example, a booking can be cancelled by an individual on the Glofox app and another client on the waiting list will automatically be allocated the slot in the pool thus minimizing any loss of income due to cancellations. The Hydrotherapy Pool payment system is now working more efficiently and is less labour-intensive. It has also allowed for much more efficient communication with our clients.

In summary, Covid 19 impacted significantly on numbers using the pool in 2021. Due to the pandemic, we were unable to offer most of our typical services such as swimming lessons and aqua classes. The number of people using the pool in 2021 was approximately one third of numbers using the pool in 2019 before the Covid 19 pandemic. We look forward to working back up to full capacity in 2022 welcoming in excess of 37,000 users.





# St. Gabriel's School

## Message from the Principal, Derek Cox

St. Gabriel's School provides specialised education for students aged 4-18 years, who have a primary complex physical disability plus or minus complex medical needs. Primary aged students follow an adapted Primary Curriculum and our secondary aged students follow the Junior Cycle Schools Programme leading to certifications.

The staff in St. Gabriel's School are dedicated to providing the necessary, bespoke, curriculum for every child that will cater to their individual needs and help them to flourish. Teachers and Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) work closely with parents and families to develop Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for their child. Each day the class teacher liaises with students' families to update them on what is happening in class and highlights the progress made by their child.

St. Gabriel's School has a dynamic and professional staff team. Staff focus on the key areas of: language and communication, numeracy, physical literacy and science. They also engage in the areas of digital literacy, life skills and positive behaviour, support and regulation.

Themed weeks are run throughout the year. For example; Science Week, Space Week, and Maths Week see all of our students participate through cross-curricular activities.

We make fantastic use of our sensory garden for both learning and recreation. The space is used for a whole range of learning opportunities and activities and, of course, for physical activity and play.

When we finally made it back to the classroom, students continued to make a splash in St. Gabriel's Hydrotherapy Pool. Every class had swimming lessons. Classes went in 3-week cycles and pupils got 6 sessions of swimming with their class group. The emphasis was always on fun, but there are clear physical benefits in each session. Students also regularly made strides out

to Liskennett Equine Therapy Centre where they engaged in horse-riding sessions.

Our senior students engaged in several initiatives and competitions this year. Bluebell Class had a stall at the Castletroy Farmers Market as part of their Student Enterprise Project. They made a tidy profit and had to have a Garda escort on the way home! Students also received prizes and nominations for Junk Kouture – making fashion out of recycled materials and ESB Science Blast.

We continue to maintain and develop links with 3rd level Institutions in Limerick. From Mary Immaculate College we have had trainee teachers and Child Psychology Doctoral Students. Students and teachers have also linked with the University of Limerick for community music projects and hosted music therapy students. All these third level students are benefiting and learning from our expertise and knowledge. For us these links enrich the learning experience for our students, they bring innovative ideas and new perspectives.

In July we delivered the in-school Summer Provision Programme to every student in the school. We were delighted to receive a special visit from the Minister for Special Education, Josepha Madigan. Minister Madigan congratulated the staff on their hard work and dedication to provide this extra resource for the students and families in St. Gabriel's School.

We finished the academic year in mid-July with a "Picnic in the Park", as we welcomed students and families to come together safely in the ability playground in Mungret park.

When reflecting on the past year you must, of course, consider the impact of the pandemic. While the impact certainly put restrictions on what we could do and placed obstacles in our way, it also demonstrated the resilience and fortitude of the school community.

With our school, our families, our friends and St. Gabriel's Foundation all supporting each other, St. Gabriel's School continues to flourish as it works hard to provide our inspirational students with a holistic child-centred education. We look forward to the New Year and the opportunities it will bring.

**Derek Cox**  
Principal



## School Board of Management

Derek Cox - Principal

Mary O'Donovan - Chairperson

Treasa McAuliffe - Patron Representative

John Kiely - Teacher Representative

Laura Holland - Parent Representative

Michael Cregan - Parent Representative

Anne McMahon - Community Representative

Noel Earlie - Community Representative



# St. Gabriel's Children's Respite House

For the past 60 years, St. Gabriel's has always been to the forefront of change and advancement within Children's Disability Services and provides therapeutic interventions and support to people with disabilities across the Mid-West.

Following consultation with families, it was evident that their biggest need was an out-of-home, nurse-led, respite service for children with complex medical needs. At this time, the only service available to these children was in Laura Lynn in Dublin.

In response to this, in June 2021, St. Gabriel's opened a Respite House in Mungret to the relief of families. This beautifully designed six-bedroomed facility opened for overnight stays after St. Gabriel's secured funding from the HSE. This meant that 6 children with complex medical needs could attend the nurse-led respite service. Families now felt secure leaving their children overnight in the confidence that all their care needs would be met. It was always the intention that going to respite would be like going on a playdate for a fun, interactive stay that siblings would be jealous of. A survey of families indicates that we have achieved this and emphasised that this is a life-line for their entire family.

If you visit the Respite House, you will experience a feeling that is so special, you can only be glad that this service exists. Children with complex medical needs are looked after by nursing staff and all the children's bedrooms are fully medically equipped.

Staff partake in activities with the children that they might not normally get to do at home. In turn, families are able to spend time with their other children doing everyday things that they don't always get a chance to do, like homework or watching a movie. Respite is for the entire family and every member of the family benefits.

One of the parents who has been using the service since it opened is very thankful and had this to say:

*"I could cry when I think of what life was like over the past couple of years. It's not just anyone you can ask to mind your child. The opening of the Respite House means I actually get a break. I get to sleep. I get a chance to recharge my batteries to get ready for the next few weeks of being the full-time carer. This place was badly needed and I am very grateful that my family gets to use it."*

St. Gabriel's continues to work in partnership with parents, the HSE and other agencies in the Mid-West to ensure that all needs continue to be met as the child grows.

We hope to secure funding from various bodies to enhance the experiences at the Respite House including the development of a purpose-built sensory room and toy library and music therapy sessions. In addition to this, St. Gabriel's continues to fundraise for the development of a sensory garden at the Mungret site.





# Governance and Management

St. Gabriel's was originally called Limerick Handicapped Children's Committee when it was established in 1961. The organisation was re-registered in 1990 and became known as St. Gabriel's School & Centre. In 2021, St. Gabriel's School & Centre changed its name to St. Gabriel's Foundation to reflect the growth of the organisation.

The company is exempt from using the word 'Limited' under section 1180 of the Companies Act 2014. St. Gabriel's School and Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) not having a shared capital. It is a registered Charity (CHY No. 5548) which indicates its charity tax exemption status and is registered with the Companies Registry Office (No. 23946). St. Gabriel's is registered with the Irish Charities Regulator (No. 20008536).

At the end of 2021 the Board reviewed and updated the Charities Governance Code Compliance Record for the Charities Regulator. The Board is the governing body and members serve on a voluntary basis; they receive no remuneration. They are responsible for the organisation's activities and strategic direction.

St. Gabriel's operate under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer Treasa McAuliffe who oversees the day-to-day management of the organisation and she reports to the Board of Directors.

As stewards of public funding and public donations, St. Gabriel's is very cognisant of the need for good, strong governance. The Board of Directors of St. Gabriel's work to the standards as set out by the National Governance Code and strive for an effective and efficiently run organisation.

St. Gabriel's is working towards receiving Triple Lock Certification from the Charities Institute of Ireland in 2022, which recognises organisations who have taken the necessary controls in the areas of annual and financial reporting, ethical

fundraising and good governance. St. Gabriel's fully complies and adheres to the guidelines as set out by the Charity Regulator.

St. Gabriel's continuously works with local and national agencies and government bodies to improve the policies and procedures that intertwine the organisation. St. Gabriel's is affiliated to all relevant local and national bodies in order to ensure that we continue to learn, continue to improve and continue to adhere to best practice.

St. Gabriel's continuously adheres to best practice in GDPR.

St. Gabriel's has a duty of care to all the stakeholders and works to meet national standards for example HIQA, CORU and the INMO to name but a few.

Good governance is at the heart of St. Gabriel's and comes from the top-down, permeating the entire organisation.

## Monitoring and Evaluation of Strategic Plan 2018-2023

Looking back proudly at what was achieved in the last five years, St. Gabriel's is now looking forward to seeing what accomplishments will be made in the next 5 years. With strong leadership from a very engaged Board of Directors and an invested staff who strive to make a difference, we hope that we can continue to meet the needs of the families we work with every day so that their lives improve for the better.





# Board of Directors



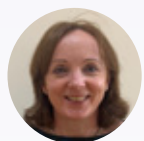
## Richard Leonard (Chair)

Partner-in-Charge Grant Thornton, Limerick (Retired), Company Director  
Chair of St. Gabriel's Foundation Board of Directors.



## Alan Carey

Alan is a Managing Partner with Bridgewater, Consultancy Group, Limerick. An experienced strategist, he fulfils the roles of Senior Business Consultant, Business Architect & Business/Corporate Analyst. Alan has over 20 years' experience in delivering business strategies, transformation and organisational change programmes.



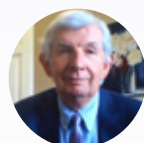
## Dr Siobhan Gallagher

Consultant Paediatrician at University Hospital Limerick and the HSE Mid-West Children's Services. Dr Gallagher's main clinical interests are the management of children with significant neurological impairment, complex medical needs and paediatric palliative care. Outside of work she is an enthusiastic runner and is keen on art history.



## Mary O'Donovan

Having graduated with a B.E (Elec) from UCC and an M.B.A from UCG, Mary O'Donovan has held a number of senior leadership positions including Customer Service Director, Chief Information Officer, Chief Operating Officer and General Manager. More recently she has worked as a consultant providing services to the Telephony, Utility and Health Sector. She is a Chartered Director and is currently a non-executive Director and member of the Audit and Risk Committees at An Post, T.I.I and the R.T.B. She is the current Chair of St. Gabriel's School Board of Management.



## Pat Murphy (Treasurer)

Chartered Accountant



## Laura Keane

Laura is Managing Director of Resilience Care with overall responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the organisation. She has 30 years' experience in the health and social care sector as a clinician and then progressing into executive management, working across the voluntary and private sectors. Laura is also a member of the Professional Providers and Caregivers Board of IPWSO (International Prader Willi Syndrome Organisation).



## Helen McInerney (Hon Secretary)

Retired Primary Teacher, former Principal St. Gabriel's School & Limerick School Project



## Stephen Keogh

Stephen Keogh is a solicitor and is the Managing Partner of the leading regional Irish Law Firm, Keating Connolly Sellors Solicitors. As well as providing leadership for the firm, Stephen maintains key responsibility for the commercial advisory to clients. Stephen is the current President of the Shannon Chamber of Commerce and he is a member of the Economic Policy Committee of Limerick Chamber of Commerce.



## Eugene Hogan

Eugene Hogan is a Managing Director in Ireland with Global CEO Advisory firm Teneo. He joined Teneo in 2020 when it acquired Bridge PR, a boutique strategic communications and digital agency founded by Eugene in the Mid-West in 2011. Eugene, in his time with Bridge PR and Teneo, manages a portfolio of clients operating nationally and internationally in sectors such as technology, transport, environment, local government, real estate, healthcare, tourism, education, sports, NGO and financial.



## David O'Malley

B.Eng Civil (Hons), MIEI.

David has been practicing as a Consulting Engineer since 2007. David has experience in Structural Engineering, Civil Engineering, Planning Authority/Local Authority, Fire Certification, Noise & Vibration Assessment, Asset Survey/Taking In Charge, Road Safety Audits, Project Management.



*Special thanks to Gerard O'Shea who left the St. Gabriel's Board at the end of 2021. Thank you for your service.*

# Fundraising

## Thank you for making a difference

In terms of Fundraising, 2021 was a challenging year for St. Gabriel's.

In terms of goodwill and overall commitment, 2021 was an inspiring year for St. Gabriel's.

Lockdowns and level 5 restrictions at the start of the year, meant that we had to adapt the way we worked.

What we lacked in in-person events, we made up for in thinking outside the box events. There were virtual Ladies Lunches, virtual runs, island swims, bake sales, mammoth cycling efforts, intricate lighting displays. All done in the name of supporting St. Gabriel's.

2021 saw the official opening of the Respite House. When the first child arrived in June 2021, the relentless fundraising efforts of the previous 10 years made it all worthwhile. There is a huge debt of gratitude to everyone who made this happen. This has the love of the community poured into it.

Now that it is being used so beneficially, the love is pouring out from it.

This beautifully designed six-bedroomed facility secured core funding from the HSE and operates 5/7 nights per week. St. Gabriel's hopes to increase this to 7/7 nights in 2022, once additional funding is secured from the HSE.

For anyone who doesn't have a child with complex needs, it might be difficult to understand just how challenging it is to get a break - even a small one. Children with complex medical needs cannot be cared for by just anyone. They need specialist care. To have this service available to families regionally is life-changing for the families, who were in desperate need of it. As one parent commented:

*"I could cry when I think of what life was like over the past couple of years. It's not just anyone you can ask to mind your child. The opening of the*

*Respite House means I actually get a break. I get to sleep. I get a chance to recharge my batteries to get ready for the next few weeks of being the full-time carer. This place was badly needed and I am very grateful that my family gets to use it."*

**Thank you for making this happen.**

Grants, donations, virtual events and benefit in kind were all measures that helped replace our more traditional fundraising activities in 2021. To alleviate the additional financial pressures that Covid-19 placed on our resources, government bodies and local agencies released several grant supports.

During the year we continued to engage with corporate, private funders and other stakeholders. Many companies and businesses continued to support us in whatever way they could either by nominating St. Gabriel's as their Charity of the Year or providing sponsorship. We received support from a few extraordinary individuals, each of them wanting to do something meaningful and contribute in some way to improving the lives of children with disabilities.

Over the years we have had wonderful support from many dedicated groups of fundraising committees, and their support shone through again in 2021.

Students from Crescent College Comprehensive took on a virtual Cook Mini Marathon running around the school pitches. Their school principal even got involved! The traditional Ladies Lunch was held virtually, stylish as always. There were also some high energy fundraisers as the Limerick Narwhals donated the proceeds from their Island Swim and Myles Shanahan cycled for the entire month of August in memory of his son Cillian. To top it all off, Cormac Hayes lit up West Limerick for us!

We closed the year on a happier note when corporate volunteers brought a huge amount of Christmas cheer, helping all here end 2021 filled with hope for 2022.

To everyone who made a difference this year, thank you.

*"When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed."* Maya Angelou

## Our Year, in Pictures



Opening the Respite chapter



Super staff



Minister Rabbitte visits the School



Ministerial visits



Hayes Family Lighting up West Limerick



Cruising into 2022



Socially distant training days



Community coffees



Cook Virtual Mini Marathon



Crescent College Comprehensive Virtual Run



Myles and Michelle doing the miles for St. Gabriel's



The official opening of the Children's Respite House

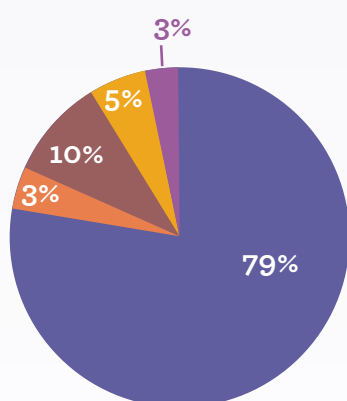
# Financial

St. Gabriel's is funded by the Health Service Executive (HSE) through Section 39 Grant funding. Fundraising, donations and grant submissions helped to offset operational costs and support the cost of new projects.

St. Gabriel's annual Service Level Agreement with the HSE was signed in July 2021.

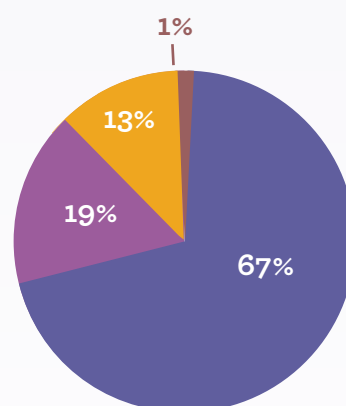
St. Gabriel's Hydrotherapy Pool and Orthotic Department are financially managed using a social enterprise model and funds generated are invested in expanding services.

## Income 2021



| Income 2021           | €000             | %           |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Statutory Funding     | 4,049,949        | 79%         |
| Fundraising           | 150,600          | 3%          |
| Grants & Philanthropy | 240,130          | 5%          |
| Commercial Activity   | 518,340          | 10%         |
| Other                 | 175,566          | 3%          |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>5,134,585</b> | <b>100%</b> |

## Expenditure 2021

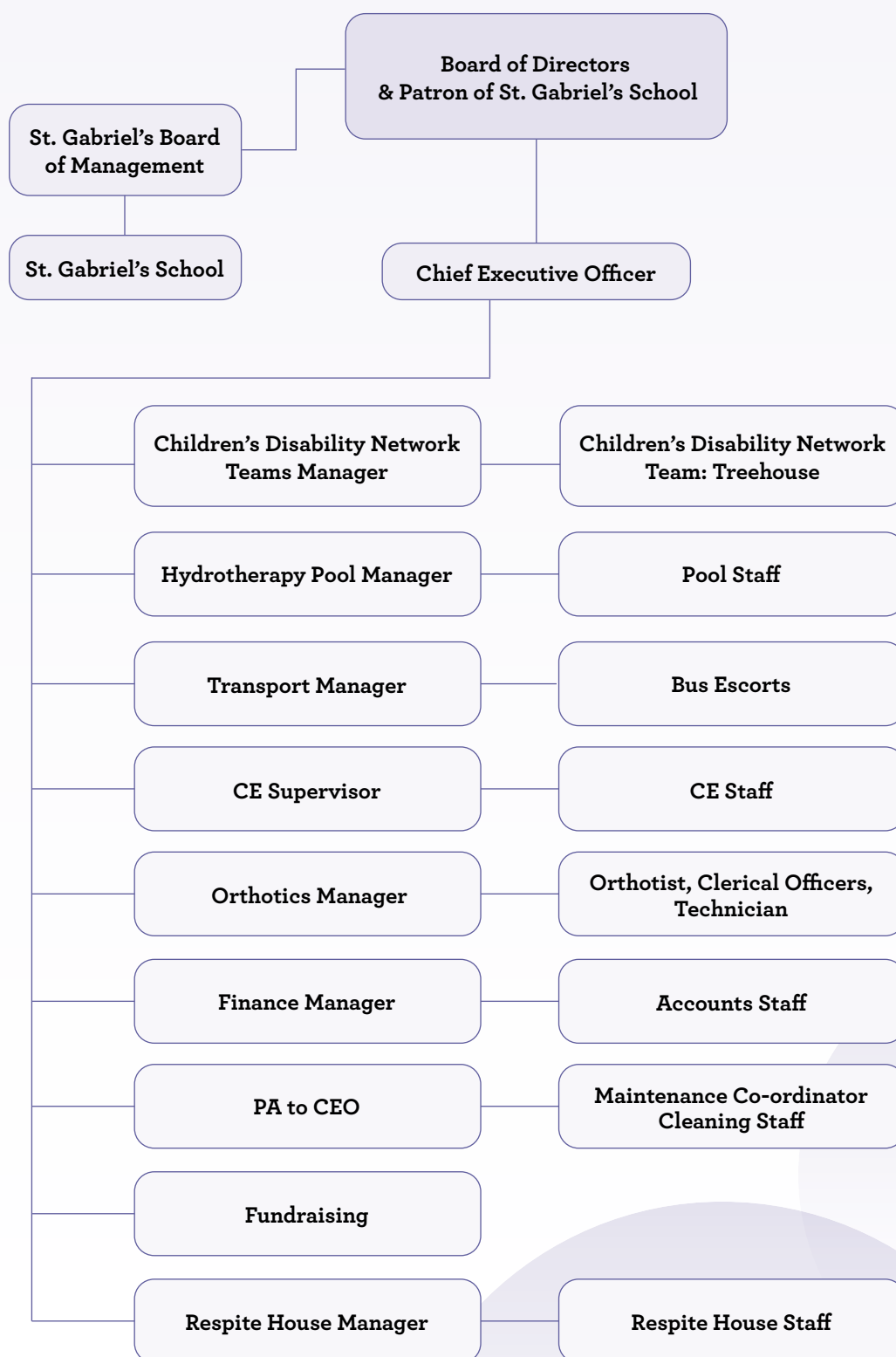


| Expenditure 2021      | €000             | %           |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Employment            | 3,223,700        | 67%         |
| Operational           | 918,734          | 19%         |
| Commercial Activities | 642,538          | 13%         |
| Generating Funds      | 32,519           | 1%          |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>4,817,491</b> | <b>100%</b> |

To view St. Gabriel's Audited Accounts for 2021 please visit our website - [www.stgabriels.ie](http://www.stgabriels.ie)



# St. Gabriel's Organisation Chart December 2021



## Reference and Administrative Details

**Name:** St. Gabriel's Foundation  
(Formerly St. Gabriel's School & Centre)  
Limited by Guarantee (CLG)  
**Registered Office:** Crabtree House, Springfield  
Drive, Dooradoyle, Limerick, V94 VY9Y  
**Company Registration No.** 23946  
**Revenue Charity No.** CHY5548  
**Charities Regulatory No.** 20008536  
**Principal Bankers:** Bank of Ireland,  
125 O'Connell St, Limerick

### Vetting

St. Gabriel's is fully compliant with the obligation of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Adults) Act, 2012 which commenced in April 2016. St. Gabriel's applies Child Protection policies, which are based on the Children First Act 2015 and Children First Guidelines 2017, and best practice recruitment policies and procedures.

### Accounting Records

The Board believe that they have complied with the requirements of Section 281 to 285 of the Companies Act, 2014 with regard to accounting records by employing personnel with appropriate expertise and by providing adequate resources to the financial function. The accounting records of St. Gabriel's are maintained at Crabtree House, Springfield Drive, Dooradoyle, Limerick.

### Lobbying and Political Contributions

There were no political contributions in 2021 (2019:Nil) and as a result no disclosures are required under the Electoral Act, 1997. As required under the Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015, St. Gabriel's records all lobbying activity and communications engaged in with the Designated Public Officials (DPOs). It has made all the returns and submissions required by the Act.

### Post Balance Sheet Events

There have been no events subsequent to the year-end that require any adjustment to or additional disclosure in the 2021 financial statements.

### Tax Clearance

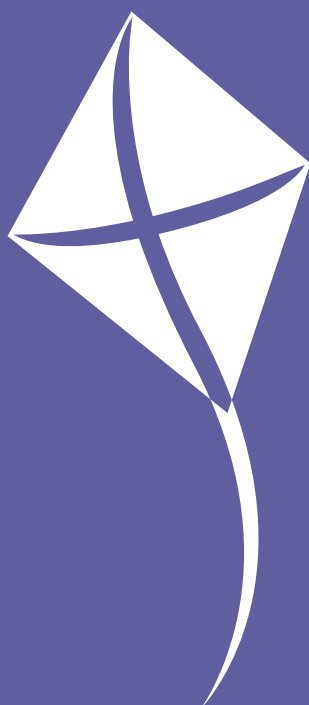
St. Gabriel's complies with Circular 44/2006 "Tax Clearance Procedures Grants, Subsidies and Similar Type Payments" by providing its tax clearance access number to grant providers when requested.

### Auditor

The Auditor, Moore Stephens Patrick McNamara, has agreed to continue in office under Section 383(2) of the Companies Act, 2014. A resolution proposing their reappointment was put to the Annual General Meeting in July 2021.

### Triple Lock Status

St. Gabriel's Foundation is adhering to the guidelines as set out by the Charity Regulator and hopes to achieve "Triple Lock Status" from the Charities Institute of Ireland in 2022.





**St. Gabriel's  
Foundation**

### **Contact us**

St. Gabriel's Foundation,  
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V94 VY9Y

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