A year to remember for every deaf child

Our impact in 2011/2012

The National Deaf Children’s Society
“I was lacking in confidence and felt left out and embarrassed by my deafness... I now feel proud to be deaf, thanks to NDCS.”

Deaf young person
A world without barriers for every deaf child

The fight for quality education that led to the foundation of the National Deaf Children’s Society in 1944 is once again at the forefront of our work. Cuts to public spending have been felt across the UK but the facts show that deaf children are being particularly affected. Through our Stolen Futures campaign we are calling for Government to protect deaf children’s services. We have also taken action to stop councils removing resources from deaf children and supported parents to stop cuts in their area. See page 18 to find out how we managed to save vital services in 18 areas of the UK.

With the right support, deaf children have every chance of growing into happy, confident adults. To ensure that the ideas and concerns of deaf young people inform and guide our work, we recruited our first ever Youth Advisory Board (YAB). Deaf awareness was chosen as one of their priority areas, leading to the launch of our first ever campaign to change attitudes about deafness amongst hearing teenagers (see p14).

We know that supporting families is the best way to build better futures for deaf children. Our family weekends are a lifeline to parents and this year we extended our provision of dedicated events for children with multiple disabilities. With almost 400 volunteers across the UK, we have been able to provide fantastic local support for parents, covering everything from family sign language training to parenting courses, some specifically tailored for black and minority ethnic parents. We have also won an award for our information and guidance, provided training for football clubs to ensure that deaf children can take part and ran arts events to build the confidence of deaf young people.

Through Deaf Child Worldwide, our international arm, we have been able to make a real difference in East Africa, Latin America and India. Focusing on school, home life and acceptance within the community, our work supports grassroots organisations to improve the lives of deaf children and their families. This year we have provided communication training for parents, helped children to access education and empowered local communities to address deaf awareness in their area (p17).

We are very proud of our successes over the last year, but we also know that there is more that we must do. We have ambitious plans for the future, from continuing to prioritise saving deaf children’s services to improving our support for socially vulnerable children. We couldn’t achieve any of this without the valuable help of our volunteers, supporters and members and look forward to working with you to break down barriers for deaf children over the coming year.

Thank you

Susan Daniels
Chief Executive, National Deaf Children’s Society
We are the National Deaf Children’s Society (NDCS).

We’re here to remove the barriers to the achievement of deaf children throughout the world.

We believe that
- effective language and communication skills lie at the heart of deaf children and young people’s social, emotional and intellectual development
- families are the most important influence on deaf children and young people, and need clear, balanced information to make informed choices
- deaf children should be involved in decisions which affect them at as early an age as possible
- deaf children can do anything other children can do, given early diagnosis and the right support from the start
- deaf children should be valued by society and have the same opportunities as any other child.

We’re here to support more than 45,000 deaf children and young people in the UK.

We’re here to support 20 million deaf children and young people worldwide.

We’re here to support 1,600 babies who are born deaf every year in the UK.
In all our work we aim to:

**Empower**
deaf children, young people and their families to determine what happens in their lives and shape the services they receive

*Pages 8–13*

**Increase awareness**
of the support deaf children and young people need to achieve and challenge social attitudes which prevent them achieving

*Pages 14–17*

**Influence and challenge**
key decision makers to make deaf children and young people a political priority.

*Pages 18–21*
How you can get involved

There are so many ways that you can be part of NDCS

Benefit from our work
If you have a deaf child in your family or work with deaf children and young people, become a member of NDCS and get access to our services, publications and information. We constantly monitor and adapt our activities and resources to ensure they meet the needs of our members.

Raise funds with us
95% of our work with deaf children and young people is funded by the public, so support from people like you is absolutely vital.

You can
• set up a regular gift
Giving a few pounds to NDCS via direct debit is a great way to help. Even a small amount per month can make a huge difference to the lives of deaf children and their families, by paying for essential support and helping us to plan our services knowing we have funds we can rely on.

“I had a deaf child in my class and realised how deaf children can so easily end up apart and alone. They need all the help they can get. That’s why I support NDCS” Teacher and regular giver

• challenge yourself
Ask people to sponsor you to jump from a plane, run a marathon or take on a walking or biking challenge as part of a team.

• have fun with your family and friends
Physical challenges aren’t for everyone and there are plenty of other fun ways to raise money for NDCS, which can involve family, friends and your local community. You can organise your own event or use some of our great fundraising ideas, like the Big Cake Bake. This year, children from 56 schools took part in the NDCS Fingerspellathon, raising an amazing £26,000 while improving their spelling and increasing their understanding of deafness.

“Training for and running the London Marathon was very tiring but if running 26.2 miles can help my nephews and other deaf children, it is a small price to pay” Beth Pooley, aunt of a deaf child
“We organised a Fingerspellathon because it’s important to increase the profile of deaf pupils in our mainstream school and we wanted to raise money for NDCS. It brought the whole school community together and improved understanding of deafness”
Teacher of the Deaf

• **include NDCS in your Will**
Gifts in Wills are a lasting gift to future generations of deaf children, young people and their families and help us to get one step closer to our vision of a world without barriers for every deaf child.

Visit [www.ndcs.org.uk/help_us](http://www.ndcs.org.uk/help_us)
To help raise funds call **0845 231 1617**

**Campaign with us**
Campaigning is fundamental to our ability to achieve our aims. We campaign for change across the UK and in the countries we work in around the world through our international arm, Deaf Child Worldwide. Whether you have a personal interest in deafness or simply believe in equal opportunities, join our campaign network and speak out about issues facing deaf children and young people.

Visit [www.ndcs.org.uk/take_action](http://www.ndcs.org.uk/take_action)
Call the NDCS Freephone Helpline **0808 800 8880**
Email campaigns@ndcs.org.uk

**Volunteer with us**
Our committed team of volunteers is vital to our success: we simply could not achieve our aims without them. Some people help to run children’s and family events, some work in our offices, others play their part in their local deaf children’s society or offer their skills to help communicate effectively with a parent of a deaf child who speaks a language other than English.

“I help organise activities for the children, explain any rules and generally supervise the events. I enjoy working with children and feel volunteering has improved my confidence.”
Volunteer

Visit [www.ndcs.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.ndcs.org.uk/volunteer)
Call **020 7490 8656**
Email volunteer@ndcs.org.uk
Informed choice

The principle of informed choice is central to NDCS. How else could we ensure that each child’s individuality, needs and talents are given the respect and consideration that they deserve, enabling them to achieve on a par with other children? Our Information team makes sure families have information about all the options available to give their deaf child the best possible chances in life and that people who work with deaf children have professional guidance to do the same. We support parents with their choices on mainstream or specialist schooling, for example, and finding the best way to communicate with their child.

Our Freephone Helpline responded to more than 14,000 enquiries over the year, an increase on the 12,500 received last year. This increase is consistent with the very hard battle we are fighting to retain essential services for deaf children in the current economic climate. It is evidence of how, more than ever, we are a vital source of information and support for families.

Parents and deaf young people told us they wanted more flexibility in how and when they could contact the helpline, so we extended the opening hours to include evenings and introduced an online chat facility. Busy teachers and parents have been able to contact us at a time that suits them and deaf parents have been able to have a real time conversation with us.
Our resources
We support all deaf children and young people, regardless of their level of deafness, how they communicate or what technical aids they use. Those who are mildly deaf or deaf in one ear only (unilateral deafness) are often overlooked, perhaps because their needs are not so apparent, but we know that they do less well at school than other children if their support needs are not addressed. We created two new booklets: Mild Deafness and Unilateral Deafness, to provide information on how to do just this. Almost 3,000 copies of each were requested as soon as they were published.

Teaching staff clearly benefited in their understanding of deaf children's needs in class by using these booklets: “They are excellent for nursery staff and teaching assistants. Very accessible and informative” Professional Lead for Children with Hearing Impairments Children’s Sensory Team

We expanded our information this year to include podcasts and video clips that can be found on our website. Our ongoing evaluation shows that these formats are both accessible and popular.

We were very proud when our membership magazine, NDCS Families, won the Memcom Charity Magazine of the Year Award.
Family weekends
Our 44 specialist family weekends supported more than 2,000 parents, carers, deaf children and their siblings at various crucial developmental stages. We continued to run our very successful weekends for families with a newly identified deaf child (22 weekends) and with deaf child about to start school or moving from primary to secondary school (20 weekends).

This year, in response to feedback received from both families and staff, we launched a number of innovative weekends, including two for grandparents of deaf children, one for families with a deaf teenager and one for families whose child has auditory neuropathy.

Our first weekends for grandparents of deaf children were hugely successful and clearly much needed. Research carried out as part of the All Together project in 2008 had shown that grandparents are often keen to be involved with their deaf grandchild and desperate for guidance on how they might be more useful.

We aim to support all deaf children, especially those who are most in need. This includes those from a disadvantaged background, those from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities and those who have additional complex needs. 12% of families who attended weekends this year were from a BME background and 25% had a child with deafness as well as an additional complex need, such as a learning disability, autism spectrum disorder or cerebral palsy.

“This has been the most worthwhile weekend that we have ever spent in our lives”  Grandparent

Get communicating
• It’s important that families feel able to choose the right mix of communication options to meet the needs of their child.
• This year we worked with the Deafness Cognition and Language (DCAL) research centre at University College London to deliver four courses for 116 early years professionals. The courses aimed to help the professionals make sign language accessible to families, reinforcing our commitment to informed choice.
• Our very successful Family Sign Language website was visited more than 14,000 times. Go to www.familysignlanguage.org.uk.
Welfare benefits and education support
Our benefits appeals advisers and family officers supported 450 families to claim £1.75 million which they would not have been awarded without our help. Education appeals advisers took on 107 new appeal cases, 24 more than last year, reflecting the importance of supporting deaf children in their right to an education that meets their needs.

Our story
Annette did not initially claim Disability Living Allowance for her deaf son Oliver as she was simply not aware that he was eligible. After Oliver was given hearing aids for both ears, Annette contacted the NDCS Freephone Helpline and realised that her family could access further support to enable Oliver to get the care he needed. However, even with a diary of evidence, she was told that using hearing aids meant that he could hear and the claim was refused. Our advisers supported Annette to appeal against the decision, which was overturned, enabling her to access the financial support Oliver needs to enjoy life like any other three year old.

Engaging with deaf children and young people
Many areas of work across the organisation have benefited from the involvement of deaf young people, made possible by the Young People’s Advisory Board (YAB). Young people have contributed to the development of the events programme, how we deliver information and advice to young people, and our campaigning work. All members of the board have said they are more confident as a result of being part of the YAB.

“I was very happy when I heard that I was nominated to become a YAB member. From that day on, I was glad I applied. I think it has changed my life”

YAB member

“It wasn’t fair on Oliver, I knew I must fight for him.”
Children’s activities
Our events for deaf children and young people are for fun and enjoyment, but they also address the social isolation and low self-esteem experienced by some deaf children. Learning new skills and making friends has a profound effect on a child’s self-confidence and we hear time and again how their hopes and expectations for the future have risen as a consequence. Our events also give deaf children a chance to be independent, spending time away from home, often for the first time.

This year, we organised and promoted 43 events for deaf children and young people, ranging from one day to a week. These included sports, creative arts and outdoor activities, as well as personal development and leadership training: 734 children attended, of whom 30% had an additional need.

“NDCS has actually changed me and my views of being deaf. I felt that I hated being deaf, but going on my first NDCS holiday changed my life. I am now more confident and proud to be deaf and accept it”
Deaf young person

Our story
11-year-old Martha often felt sidelined at social occasions, lacking confidence and not knowing how to join in. When she heard about our NDCS events she and her parents felt a week was too long for her to be away. So, Martha went on an NDCS First Time Away Weekend. She loved it, which gave her the confidence to enrol on a week-long course of arts and sports activities. Our children and young people’s activities enable deaf children to meet each other, build self-esteem and challenge their expectations of what they can do. When she came home, her mother said: “Martha seemed to have grown, she was standing proud. She’d done things she’d never done before and she enjoyed the taste of independence too.”
Around the world
In India, East Africa and South America we brought parents together to learn about deafness and communicating better with their deaf child. We supported a total of 3,536 parents, resulting in more deaf children being integrated positively into family life and playing active roles in family and community events and activities.

The parents of Pankaj Das, from one of the poorest districts in West Bengal, didn’t know that deaf children can go to school and neither did the local teacher so Pankaj didn’t go until he was nearly 10 years old. When our project worker from the Khagenhat Welfare Organisation (KWO) met him, she taught him sign language, writing and arithmetic. She knew that if life was going to really change for Pankaj, his parents and teacher would need to learn too – so she has given them training in how to communicate with a deaf child, what deaf children are capable of and what technical aids might be available.

Deaf Child Worldwide, the international arm of NDCS, pays for six community workers at KWO. They are educating local people about childhood deafness and bringing deaf children into community life.

Local groups
More than 100 local groups are affiliated to NDCS. Local groups bring families together to have fun, raise funds, increase awareness of childhood deafness and campaign for improved services. One group to benefit from an NDCS grant was our St Helens group, Deaf Active, which used its grant to buy up-to-date multi-sensory equipment, used to help deaf children and their parents to communicate with each other. The group also ran life skill and awareness sessions for deaf young people, covering topics such as healthy lifestyle and drug and alcohol awareness.
How we have increased awareness

Communication is crucial
What do deaf young people tell us they want? Most of all, they want more hearing people, including their peers and their teachers, to learn how to communicate with them effectively.

Our research showed that 77% of teenagers have no idea how to communicate with someone with a hearing loss. The research gave powerful momentum to the Young People’s Advisory Board’s advice that improving deaf awareness among hearing young people should be a top priority. After consulting 88 deaf teenagers in three schools and 1,000 hearing young people, our Look, Smile, Chat campaign was launched in May 2012.

Additional needs
We are determined that having additional needs should not stop deaf children and young people enjoying the full range of activities we provide. This year, we increased this commitment by adapting our events and training for staff and volunteers. As a result of this work, 30% of children attending activity weekends or holidays had an additional need, the majority of these being a learning disability, autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, dyspraxia or visual impairment.

For the second year, we ran our Big Weekend for 50 families with a deaf child with an additional complex need. Parents told us they highly valued coming together with families who have similar needs and receiving vital support, information and encouragement. The weekend was supported by The National Lottery through Big Lottery Fund.

“Spending time with people who understand some of the issues we face and sharing our experiences together has been amazing”
Parent volunteer
Guidance for professionals

As 82% of deaf children are taught in mainstream schools, ensuring that busy teachers know how to support their achievement is a high priority. With funding from the Department for Education’s Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Families fund, we were able to create four new resources for teachers in primary, early years and further education settings. This included a guide to teaching phonics to deaf children.

Me2

All too often, deaf children are left out and lose confidence when they try to take part in local clubs and activities. Our Me2 project develops the capacity of young people’s organisations to ensure deaf children are fully included. This year:

• we trained 400 sports coaches, officials, volunteers and professionals to include deaf children in their youth programmes

• 101 new clubs and organisations signed our Me2 Pledge, demonstrating that the initiative is picking up momentum

• 30 clubs competed in our National Deaf Youth Football Tournament, all delivering regular coaching sessions; 11 of these joined this year, including Everton and Arsenal Football Club.

More than 90% of people who completed the Me2 programme reported that they will change the way they run their activities.

“The course... has made me personally far more aware of the difficulties faced by deaf people. What really amazes me is that the difficulties can so easily be overcome with little more than a wider awareness and subtle changes in approaching someone who is deaf”

Youth activities leader
Accessible to all
Ensuring that all families with a deaf child receive information and support about raising their child is a vital part of our work. We estimate that 16% of deaf children and young people in the UK are from a black and minority ethnic (BME) background, where deafness can sometimes be little understood or accepted. This year, we launched our three-year Positive Families, Stronger Communities project (supported by The National Lottery through Big Lottery Fund), which raises awareness of childhood deafness in BME communities to prevent deaf children being isolated and left out of family life.

• We recruited and trained 20 facilitators and 10 volunteers from BME backgrounds to deliver parenting and family sign language training. Facilitators who deliver the course are from the same geographical area and similar cultural background as participants, so they can understand the challenges of parenting within the community and support parents in a more appropriate and sensitive way.

• We organised 13 events, such as coffee mornings for families in their own communities, which were attended by more than 100 parents and carers of deaf children. The events helped us to find out more about the needs of BME parents and shape our services accordingly.

• We started five courses in parenting and family sign language, attended by 55 parents. We will be continuing these into next year.

Our story
Miladur signed up as a volunteer on the Positive Families, Stronger Communities project. He’s determined his daughter will grow up with the support she needs to achieve anything other children can.

“There’s a stigma attached to deafness and disability in some BME communities,” he says. “People think if a child can’t hear they can’t understand. We need to tackle this through educating people in BME communities.”

“We need to tackle this stigma through educating people in BME communities.” Miladur, volunteer

Volunteer development
We are fortunate to have a team of almost 400 active volunteers who support us in everything from children’s events to fundraising activities and office work. We would simply not be able to achieve our ambitious programmes without them.

We have almost 400 active volunteers and we could not succeed without them

We have developed new support systems to manage this amazing resource, including setting up schemes for volunteers who are parents or carers of deaf children. They help deliver our parenting, family sign language and family support work, acting as role models for parents new to childhood deafness.
Emotional health and well-being

Too many deaf children and teenagers experience isolation and lack of self-esteem. Our Healthy Minds programme helps them to learn self-awareness and social skills, to raise their personal expectations and to resolve emotional issues.

This year we trained 206 professionals, who delivered our highly effective programme to an estimated 984 deaf young people and 554 parents. Evaluation of the training so far shows that young people have better social skills and awareness, increased confidence, and greater discussion of deafness and their emotions. One facilitator who used the training to develop the confidence of deaf children in her class gave us a clear demonstration of the impact:

“The three deaf children stood up and said how they would like others to communicate with them, and they started to reinforce this in every session, so you could see improved communication from start to finish.”

Facilitator in a mainstream school

Around the world

We trained 1,661 teachers, specialist support teachers, community workers and other professionals to support deaf children and young people. This resulted in improved teaching and classrooms that are better able to support deaf children in their learning.

In northern Uganda, a very poor area torn apart by civil war, we trained parents of deaf children to foster healthy and supportive attitudes to deaf children in their communities. Parents have subsequently set up and maintain peer support groups. They have met with community leaders and local government officials and have launched a campaign for a permanent district sign language interpreter to be available for medical appointments and school examinations. These events are evidence of a substantial increase in awareness of the need for deaf children to have a place in community life.
How we have **influenced and challenged**

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**Protecting services for deaf children**

This year parents have been worried about the effect of budget cuts on the education of their deaf child. We discovered that almost one in five local authorities in England had made cuts to educational support for deaf children, support that is absolutely crucial for their learning and development. We called on the Secretary of State to explain why this was happening when the Government had stated they would protect this budget.

We challenged cuts up and down the country and produced resources to enable parents, professionals and local campaigners to tell us their stories, join us and take action. We empowered parents in nine areas to tackle cuts, securing thousands of signatures on petitions in some areas and provoking council discussions.

When Stoke-on-Trent City Council announced plans to slash the number of visiting Teachers of the Deaf without following legal processes, parents were frantic. With our support they worked together, lobbying councillors, talking to journalists and signing petitions. The Council failed to respond to repeated requests for information so we took legal action on behalf of parents. The Council reversed its decision to halve the number of Teachers of the Deaf when faced with our High Court action and extensive media coverage.

Parents in Salford were up in arms and out on the streets petitioning when they heard of council plans to halve specialist teaching posts.

“Our Teacher of the Deaf is visiting the school less often because she’s covering a bigger area and there are not enough staff”

Parent

“We were lucky to get a lot of media coverage, which got people talking about our campaign and helped us to collect more than 2,500 petition signatures. This led to the city council having a debate about visiting Teachers of the Deaf”

Parent
Following the parents' action, the council agreed to involve NDCS and parents in a review of specialist services and to halt plans to change services until this is complete.

In Southampton, we worked with the local deaf children’s society, who had learnt that there would be just one Teacher of the Deaf for 165 deaf children. South Hampshire Deaf Children’s Society secured 4,000 signatures on its petition and we secured great media coverage, forcing the council to debate the issue further and agree to make extra specialist teaching available.

Media coverage of the Save Services for Deaf Children campaign reached millions of people this year. More than 5,500 campaign actions, such as contacting a local MP, starting a petition or holding a meeting for parents, were taken by NDCS campaigners across the UK to save services.

To date, **18 local authorities either reduced or halted their cuts** as result of our campaigning with parents. We continue to work hard to limit the impact of austerity measures on deaf children’s education so that they can achieve on a par with other children.

**Narrowing the attainment gap**

When NDCS was established in 1944 it was because parents were incensed that their deaf children were not receiving the same opportunities at school as other children. This year we continued to raise expectations of what deaf children can achieve with the right support. As well as issuing guidance for mainstream teachers, we challenged proposed cuts in education support and lobbied for improvements in education provision.

Deafness is not a learning disability, so deaf children should receive the right support to make sure they achieve at the same level as other children. Whilst GCSE results have improved in recent years, far too many deaf children still fail to achieve their potential. Government figures show that only 40% of deaf children achieved 5 GCSEs (including English and maths) at grades A* to C in 2011, compared to 70% of children with no identified special educational need. Too many children are growing up without the qualifications to survive in today’s tough jobs market. We will continue to work towards closing this attainment gap.
Welfare reform
We swung into action when we heard that, with the passing of the Welfare Reform Bill, many deaf young people would not be eligible for Disability Living Allowance (DLA). Instead, over 16s will have to apply for Personal Independence Payments (PIP).

Our investigations revealed that deaf young people who don’t use sign language would mostly not be eligible for PIP, even though they may need support in achieving and qualifying for the jobs market. We worked with children’s charities, urging the Government to consider this and secured commitments in the House of Lords, including creation of a specialist panel dedicated to young people. There is still much to do to secure the benefits that over 16s need to approach their future on an equal footing.

Acoustics
Our Sounds Good campaign highlights the need for good acoustics in school buildings so that deaf children can hear what is being said. This year, our campaign in Wales secured a commitment from the Welsh Government that new school, college and nursery buildings funded through its 21st Century Schools Programme would meet acoustic standards.

Local elections
NDCS members in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland worked hard to ensure that newly elected politicians know how their decisions can affect deaf children and young people. As a result, 55 of the newly elected Assembly Members in Wales and 31 MSPs in Scotland pledged to take action for deaf children.
Involving deaf young people in campaigning

It's important that deaf young people can make an impact on the world they live in and on how their needs are met. Several deaf teenagers accompanied us to Party Conferences and talked to politicians about what it's like to be a deaf young person. 18-year-old Rebecca Wand met Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education, and grilled him on cuts to Teachers of the Deaf posts and access to sign language training for families. Afterwards the Department for Education wrote to NDCS and Rebecca outlining how wider education reforms will directly address some of the concerns she raised.

In Scotland and Wales, deaf young people progressed our Sounds Good campaign by speaking to their MPs about the importance of good acoustics in school buildings.

NDCS Young People’s Advisory Board member Nairi Gallant, who attended the Liberal Democratic Party Conference, said: “Meeting the MPs was great as they can make a real difference to the lives of deaf children – most of them wanted to hear all about our experiences.”

“Nairi’s attendance at the conference was so successful .... She learnt much, felt she contributed much and it has certainly boosted her self-confidence” Parent

Around the world

In Kajiado district, Kenya, we helped parents to come together to form a support group to learn sign language and to stand up for their deaf children’s rights. After training in leadership skills and lobbying and advocacy work, the parents successfully campaigned for an additional teacher trained in sign language to teach their children at the local primary school. Previously, the school in Bissel had just one specialist teacher and one large class of more than 40 deaf children of all ages. Since the arrival of the second specialist teacher the school has been able to separate the pupils into two age-appropriate groups. Our partner ANPPCAN is working with 27 similar parent support groups across four districts in Kenya.

197 parent support groups formed in developing countries
Our plans for next year

How we will work to transform the lives of deaf children and their families in 2012/13

Empowering – we will:

- increase the number of families we support with training, advice and information to help them to make informed choices and decisions and support their child’s language and communication skills

- run events and activities to help more families feel confident about parenting a deaf child and to increase the confidence and self-esteem of deaf children and young people

- increase our direct engagement with deaf children and young people

- work with other organisations to create accessible information for deaf teenagers and provide additional information and advice resources for young people.
**Increasing awareness – we will:**

- enable more people who are in regular contact with deaf children and young people to have the knowledge, skills and experience they need to effectively work with and involve them

- train more professionals and produce new guidance to improve their awareness of good practice in teaching literacy and numeracy to deaf primary aged pupils and the effective use of teaching assistants

- work with others to improve understanding of how best to support deaf children and young people with additional complex needs

- support deaf children and young people to be more included in community and mainstream activities.

**Influencing and challenging – we will:**

- continue to influence decision makers in the four countries of the UK and act to ensure services are not cut and the needs of deaf children are met

- engage deaf young people and their parents in lobbying and advocacy skills and support them to influence decisions about services and provision

- progress NDCS’s campaign to close the gap in educational attainment between deaf children and their peers.
We also send a big thank you to all our volunteers.

Thank you to our supporters

We received very generous funding from the following trusts, statutory bodies and companies this year. We are most grateful to them all, as well as to those who have left a gift in their Will or supported us with a donation or regular gift. These gifts are so important to our work and we would be simply unable to provide the same level of support to deaf children, deaf young people and their families without them.

**Trusts and statutory bodies**

The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust  
The Sylvia Aitken Charitable Trust  
Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
Lord Austin Trust  
The Barbour Trust  
BBC Children In Need Appeal  
The Hilda Beer Charitable Trust  
Benham Charitable Settlement  
Pat and Barbara Bennett Charitable Trust  
Percy Bilton Charity  
Sydney Black Charitable Trust  
Boshier-Hinton Foundation  
The C & R Foundation  
Joseph & Annie Cattle Trust  
The Robert Clutterbuck Charitable Trust  
Sir Jeremiah Colman Gift Trust  
The Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust  
Ronald Cruickshanks Foundation  
The Cumber Family Charitable Trust  
Baron Davenport’s Charity  
Gwendoline and Margaret Davies Charity  
Department for Education  
Department for International Development  
The Equitable Charitable Trust  
The Eric Evans Memorial Trust  
The Eveson Charitable Trust  
Fence Club Trust Fund  
The Finderman Charitable Trust  
The Dixie Rose Findlay Charitable Trust  
The Football Foundation  
Donald Forrester Trust  
Fowler Smith and Jones Trust  
The Hugh Fraser Foundation  
The Gray Trust  
Constance Green Foundation  
The Walter Guinness Charitable Trust  
The Hedley Denton Charitable Trust  
The Hospital Saturday Fund  
The Thomas Howell’s Education Fund for North Wales (The Drapers’ Company)  
The Hull and East Riding Charitable Trust  
Inspiring Scotland  
The Joicey Trust  
The Lady Eileen Joseph Foundation  
Elsie Lawrence Trust  
Raymond and Blanche Lawson Charitable Trust  
The Leathersellers’ Company Charitable Fund  
Leng Charitable Trust  
Thomas Lilley Memorial Trust  
Lord and Lady Lurgan Charitable Trust  
A H Lynall Foundation  
The Lynn Foundation  
The Madeline Mabey Trust  
The Orr Mackintosh Foundation  
The MacRobert Trust  
The Esme Mitchell Trust  
The Moffat Charitable Trust  
Oliver Morland Charitable Trust  
Murphy-Neumann Charity Co Ltd  
The National Lottery through Big Lottery Fund  
The Norman Family Charitable Trust  
Northumberland County Council  
The Oakdale Trust  
P F Charitable Trust  
Payne-Gallwey 1989 Trust  
Miss A M Pilkington’s Trust  
Sir John Priestman Charity Trust
We also send a big thank you to all our volunteers.

Corporate
Artemis
Barclays Bank
Barristers from 11KBW
Bloom Hearing Care
Carillion plc
Dale and Valley Homes
Deafsign.com
Felix Dennis
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Fried Frank
GlaxoSmithKline
Sir Robert McAlpine
Irwin Mitchell
The Mermaid Inn, Rye
Next
Nimans
David Ormerod/Boots Hearing Care
Sass and Belle
Star Curtain
Wiggle
Our charitable expenditure in 2011/12

Influencing, lobbying and campaigning £2,345,397
Information provision £2,561,566
Support to families £3,620,549
Children’s and young people’s services £1,973,178
Deaf Child Worldwide £1,091,262

Total £11,591,952

Charitable activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influencing, lobbying and campaigning</td>
<td>£2,345,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information provision</td>
<td>£2,561,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to families</td>
<td>£3,620,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s and young people’s services</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Deaf Child Worldwide</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£11,591,952</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trustees’ statement

This is a summary of the information published in the Annual Report and Financial Statements, which were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf on 23 July 2012. The statutory financial statements, on which the Auditors Kingston Smith LLP gave an unqualified audit report on 13 August 2012, have been submitted to the Registrar of Companies, Charity Commission and Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

This summary information may not contain sufficient information to gain a complete understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. The full trustees’ report, statutory financial statements and auditors’ report may be obtained from the NDCS Freephone Helpline on 0808 800 8880 or website www.ndcs.org.uk.

NDCS Board of Trustees
Andrew Ford (Chair)
Matthew Hilton (Vice Chair)
Brian Trotman (Treasurer)
Melanie Sullivan (Deputy Treasurer)
Lisa Capper
Brendan Cleere (appointed 25 July 2011)
Andy Fancy (appointed 25 July 2011)
Gerard Featherstone
Gavin Hogg
Claire McClafferty
Deepak Prasher (resigned 2 August 2012)
Chris Saunders (appointed 23 July 2012)
Thank you
NDCS is the leading charity dedicated to creating a world without barriers for deaf children and young people.

NDCS Freephone Helpline:
0808 800 8880 (voice and text)

helpline@ndcs.org.uk

www.ndcs.org.uk