

ANNUAL REVIEW AND IMPACT REPORT 2025





WELCOME BY MICHELE FARMER, CEO AND BARBARA PEACOCK, CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

If 2025 will be remembered for anything it is the long, hot summer that gave us sunny days from morning until night. For us at Go Beyond it meant more time outdoors, playing games, sharing picnics and gathering around campfires as the sun went down. Throughout the year, so many magical moments have been created for the children, giving them memories they will treasure forever.

Our Ice Cream Moments campaign, fronted by comedian James Acaster, was a huge success and brought many new supporters into our community.

As summer turned to autumn, we were thrilled to be asked by HRH Princess Catherine to bring children from Go Beyond to take part in her Mother Nature film, crunching through leaves and cooking over an open fire.

Winter brought a chill, but also Christmas celebrations, warm soups and roast dinners. We went to the pantomime and ice skating, wrapped up to play outside and ended days with games and hot chocolate.

This year **1100 children** enjoyed a Go Beyond break, supported by over **140 volunteers**, including many completing their Duke of Edinburgh awards. Behind the scenes we have been growing our capacity to welcome more children. Renovations in Cornwall have given us extra bedrooms, and additional beds at Daleside mean more space for young people to stay. We are also excited to have secured our first Go Beyond breaks in the South East, with 100 children offered a place in Essex in 2026. This marks the start of a new chapter.

Our group sizes will remain small and nurturing, but together these developments mean that in **2026** we plan to offer **1250 breaks**, the largest number in our charity's history. We are building on more than three decades of experience.

As we have travelled the country seeking new opportunities, we have been warmly welcomed by like-minded organisations. At the same time we have seen a sharp decline in opportunities for children to have a residential break. Once common for most children, these breaks now depend on schools and families having the budget, and many simply cannot afford it. For the children we support, a break away might never happen without Go Beyond and the supporters who make it possible. Yet we know these breaks have never been more needed.

Life continues to be tough, with rising prices and more families in insecure housing. As over 20 percent of children referred to us this year were due to housing issues and poverty, our offering matters more than ever.

To everyone who has helped make this year possible, we offer our heartfelt thanks. We are on a mission to reach more children and we welcome anyone who would like to refer a child, support us, volunteer or partner with us. Please get in touch and be part of bringing a little magic into every child's life.



Throughout the year, so many magical moments have been created for the children, giving them memories they will treasure forever.



Michele Farmer
CEO



Barbara Peacock
Chair of Trustees

FINANCE AND FUNDING

YOU HELPED
US RAISE
£1.87M

Each break costs **£1200**

Thanks to you, Go Beyond was able to raise £1.87 million. This provided the funding for 1103 children to come on a life-changing Go Beyond experience.

Here's how your support has made this possible:

Thank You

A huge thank you to every single one of you who supported us this year. Whether you donated to our appeals, organised an event for us, took on a challenge event (and possibly questioned your life choices halfway up a hill), or rallied support through your workplace, we are so grateful.

Your generosity helps create incredible moments for the children we support. You truly go beyond for Go Beyond. Thank you for supporting us, for cheering us on, and for being part of our amazing family.

Ice Cream Moments



For the second year, we launched our Ice Cream Moments campaign, asking people to donate the cost of an ice cream to help support a child on a break. This year, people generously bought more than 720 ice creams, and even James Acaster joined in the fun.

Watch the video here.



Income from Trusts and Foundations: **£734K**

Donations from our major donors **£273K**

Corporate donations raised **£286K**

Donations received from our supporters **£262K**

Gift Aid amounted to **£43K**

We received **£275K** in Legacies

Duke of Edinburgh Participants **£6K**

Total income **£1.87M**

Thank you for your incredible support.

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

WE HELD
1103
BREAKS THIS
YEAR

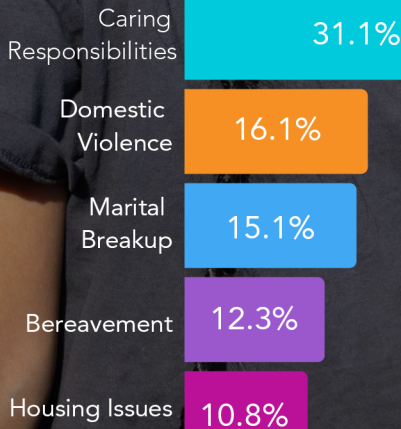
63% of children qualified for Pupil Premium and 54% in receipt of Free School Meals.

21% of children referred to us are diagnosed with ADHD or autism.

38% of children referred to us have a SEND Trait.

Top Referral Reasons

Sadly many children are referred for more than one reason



50.3% female
49.7% male

Over 39% of children referred to us were affected by mental health concerns.

THE DIFFERENCE OUR BREAKS HAVE MADE



We found that following a break:

Children's Hopefulness Increased

78% of children believed good things would happen in their life

Their Confidence Improved

80% felt they were good at some things

74% felt better at being able to make choices

83% felt there were things they could be proud of

Their Mood and Mental Wellbeing Improved

77% felt relaxed

82% felt cheerful

80% felt in a good mood

75% felt more calm

Children Felt They Could Be More Trusting

75% felt able to make new friends

80% felt people cared about them

VOLUNTEERS



“
**Go Beyond is
my anti-aging
secret!**”



Volunteer Ed

140 AMAZING INDIVIDUALS VOLUNTEERED ON A BREAK

Go Beyond’s incredible volunteers are at the heart of everything we do; they are the people who help make every break possible...

This year, 140 amazing individuals volunteered on a break. Our eldest volunteer was 81, and our youngest was 18, a wonderful reminder that anyone can help change a child’s life. Together, they covered an incredible 172 weeks of breaks.

Our breaks simply could not run without the dedication of our volunteers. They support our Break Leaders, help prepare meals, picnics and BBQs, join in with activities like kayaking and surfing, and most importantly spend time with the children. Through support by listening when children need it and encouraging them to have fun, our volunteers help children build trust and shape lifelong memories.

To find out more about volunteering with Go beyond visit our webpage gobeyond.org.uk

A heartfelt thank you to every single volunteer. You make Go Beyond possible.

Corporate Volunteering

This year our corporate volunteers were also on hand to support Go Beyond. From painting, gardening and decorating at our Centres, to helping wrap more than 1,000 Christmas presents for the children, we are so grateful for their time and enthusiasm. Thank you!



Staff from BGF wrap presents for the Children.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

CHILDREN CELEBRATE THE MAGIC OF NATURE WITH HRH THE PRINCESS OF WALES



A Morning to Remember

A Day with a Princess

On 7 October, children supported by Go Beyond enjoyed a remarkable opportunity to explore nature alongside HRH The Princess of Wales at Windsor Great Park. Filmed for Mother Nature, a Kensington Palace video series celebrating the UK's changing seasons, the visit highlighted how time in nature can support wellbeing and confidence.

For Go Beyond, the day was about more than outdoor learning. It was a chance to create magical moments the children will remember: a positive, joyful experience that helps them feel valued.



The Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace

Tea at the Palace

Our COO, Operations Director, and Martin Waller (Trustee) were also invited to the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, where they met the Princess of Wales and had the opportunity to proudly promote the work of Go Beyond.

Go Beyond is on the Road!

Next year we will be partnering with the Cardfields in Essex to trial our new Pop-Up Breaks model. This year, we took a group of eight children from Dagenham Young Carers to explore the centre and share their thoughts. Let's just say they loved it!

The day was filled with all the Go Beyond magic: with fun, adventure and the chance to simply be children. They left feeling happy, confident and full of excitement.



Next year at Carfields in Essex, we will be welcoming 100 children from London, bringing our breaks to the places where they are needed most.

To find out more scan to watch our film here. 



Alfie's Story

11 year old *Alfie has had an incredibly tough childhood. Alfie carries the responsibility of being a young carer for his brother, who has severe mental health difficulties. Months without a stable home have added to his stress, leaving him frightened of the world, anxious about change, and overwhelmed in unfamiliar places. With secondary school approaching, Alfie was facing all his biggest fears at once.

Alfie needed time and space to be a child again and Go Beyond was the right place. Although he arrived nervous and unsure, a warm welcome to our centre helped him slowly start to relax and come out of his shell. The week soon began to fill with magical moments that reminded Alfie what joy can look like.

During a rock-climbing session Alfie was initially hesitant, unconvinced that he could take on the challenge. But with encouragement, he decided to give it a try. Against his own expectations, he reached the very top. The pride and surprise on his face were unforgettable. It was a turning point that showed Alfie he could be brave and that new experiences did not always have to be scary.

As his confidence grew, so did the magic of the week. Alfie began forming friendships, and letting his fun-loving side shine through. Whether he was singing loudly with his new friends or racing down slides at the waterpark, Alfie became fully immersed in the joy of the break, creating more magical moments with every passing day.

By the end of the week, Alfie had transformed. He left as a more confident, sociable young person with memories he will carry with him forever. His time at Go Beyond gave him exactly what he needed: reassurance, joy, and the magical moments that helped him believe he can face whatever comes next.



**Names and some details have been changed to protect the children*

THE CHARITY GIVING BREAKS THAT LAST A LIFETIME

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