

**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

**Charity No. 1107249**

**Company No. 05294528**

**Trustees' Report and Unaudited Accounts**

**31 March 2025**

**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
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**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
**Trustees Annual Report**

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

**Reference and administrative details**

Akademi South Asian Dance UK is a registered charity (number: 1107249) and the company number is: 05294528.

**Principal (and Registered) Office**

Old Hampstead Town Hall  
213 Haverstock Hill  
London  
NW3 4QP

**Directors and Trustees**

The directors of the charity are its trustees for the purposes of charity law and the trustees serving during the year were as follows:

Caroline Casey  
Hannah Dye (Chair)  
Martina Ghinetti  
Rachel Harris  
Prakash Kurup  
Jasmine Man  
Devashree Pande  
Dr Shopita Sivarankan  
Shravan Sood

**Key management**

To which day-to-day management of the charity is delegated:  
Kirsten Burrows – Executive Director & Joint CEO  
Subathra Subramaniam – Artistic Director & Joint CEO

**Company Secretary**

Rachel Harris

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**Treasurer**

Prakash Kurup

**Relevant organisations or advisors**

**Independent examiner**

Luna Muncaster Ltd  
40 Vera Avenue  
Grange Park  
London  
N21 1RG

**Bankers**

National Westminster Bank  
Bloomsbury Parr Branch  
PO Box 158  
214 High Holborn  
London  
EC1V 7BX

**Solicitors**

Russell Cooke Solicitors  
2 Putney Hill  
London  
SW15 6AB

**Structure, governance, and management**

Akademi is a company limited by guarantee and governed by a memorandum of association which was updated on 1 December 2021.

Trustees' Indemnity Insurance was purchased during the year. Akademi conducts an induction for new trustees and provides on-going training throughout their time as trustees.

Trustees hold four full board meetings a year and take part in sessions dedicated to the strategic development and future visioning of the organisation annually. The board is supported by subgroups with specific roles as follows:

- **Finance & General Purposes (F&GP)** – an existing group consisting of the Joint CEOs and 2 board members (comprising the Chair and the Treasurer) to analyse and approve quarterly management accounts ahead of each board meeting, review company policies (such as equal opportunities, safeguarding and environmental), oversee and advise on HR, annually review remuneration for staff salaries and freelancers' fees.

- **Strategic Development Group (SDG)** – a group consisting of 2 Trustees with specialist arts management and Charity knowledge and the Joint CEOs to monitor formal governance, monitoring of the business plan, risk register and mitigations, and adherence to the Arts Council England Investment Principles.

### **Major risks**

Akademi's major risks are principally the withdrawal of funds by any of our major funders, including public bodies. Steps have been taken by the Trustees to ensure that there is regular dialogue with Arts Council England and that a fundraising strategy to diversify our income streams is put in place. Akademi has a comprehensive risk analysis which is available on request. Systems have been established to enable and ensure regular reports are produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

## **Annual review**

### **Objectives**

The objects for which the Company is formed are to advance the arts for the public benefit, in particular by the promotion of South Asian dance forms, and generally by the promotion of the performing arts.

Akademi makes vibrant, fascinating, and meaningful South Asian dance. We use the compelling power of storytelling, rhythm, and gestures to create deeper connections with each other and our wider world. Care is at the centre of all that we do. Akademi has been the beating heart of South Asian dance in the UK since 1979, and our vision is that South Asian dance is a vital part of everyone's creative expression.

Since Akademi's formation by renowned South Asian dance performer and teacher Tara Rajkumar OAM, and the work of Artistic Director Mira Kaushik OBE from 1988–2019, we have grown into the UK's leading dance organisation dedicated to developing South Asian dance at the highest level.

Akademi is known for our world-class dance performances and groundbreaking wellbeing programmes. Our work is for everyone, and we bring our work to our communities. You can find us in everyday places from theatres, parks, shopping centres and festivals to hospitals, care homes and schools. Through the captivating forms of South Asian dance like Bharatanatyam and Kathak, we bring joy, inspiration and hope to people's lives.

The artistic community we work with are our collaborators and partners. We engage with internationally recognised dancers, choreographers, and artists to nurture the future generation of South Asian dance form leaders. We collaborate with environmental, science and health specialists to share stories of the societal and scientific issues of our world today.



## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

Akademi's work generates significant public benefit across the interconnected areas in which it operates including community engagement, performance, and artist development. Our beneficiaries are wide ranging. They include older adults, hospital patients and NHS staff, children and young people, those who are Black, Asian minority ethnic, disabled people, low-income families, people with Special Educational Needs, South Asian dance professionals, artists and their collaborators and aspiring dancers and creatives.

"We put care at the centre of everything that we do at Akademi. Caring deeply about dance, the people we work with and the artists and creatives who make work, we care about the planet and our future and we care that as many people as possible can participate and benefit from the joy of South Asian dance." Suba Subramaniam, Artistic Director & Joint CEO, Akademi.

### **Akademi's Manifesto**

Akademi's Manifesto is a statement developed by the Joint CEOs in consultation with the Trustees and an independent Artist Advisory Group in 2021. The Manifesto is reviewed annually by the Joint CEOs to ensure it continues to represent Akademi's public declaration and commitment of our aims and values.

- Our creative programme will be driven by societal and scientific issues that are relevant and resonant to the now.
- The dance artists we work with are our collaborators and cocurators and we will actively engage with them to nurture the future generations of dance leaders and create work of high artistic quality.
- Our learning and participation programme will be underpinned by research to ensure dance impacts the physical and mental wellbeing of our communities.
- We will actively seek opportunities for people of all cultures, abilities, and ages to access South Asian dance.
- Every new work will seek to factor in inclusivity and access.
- We will endeavour to listen to our communities to plan and devise all new learning and participation programmes effectively in collaboration with our artists and participants.
- Our work will engage with dance artists and communities through partnerships with organisations across the country.
- We are committed to this manifesto. We will listen to our communities, be responsive and evolve with our changing times.

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

### **Principle funding sources**

The principal funding sources for Akademi's work are Arts Council England (ACE), Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The Linbury Trust, BBC Children In Need, John Lyon's Charity, Create Equity/MeWe 360 and other grants from Trusts and Foundations, performance and contract fees and income from workshops and commissions.

## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

As an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, ACE supports Akademi's core salary costs for delivery of an agreed artistic programme. Our income from grants, commissions and earned sources supports the appreciation, knowledge of and community, education, and health participation in South Asian dance for the public directly through performances and participatory engagement and workshops.

Akademi's activities, approach, plans and manifesto throughout 2024/25 demonstrated our strong alignment with ACE's current strategy - Let's Create Outcomes of Creative People, Cultural Communities and A Creative and Cultural County; and their Investment Principles (IPs) of Inclusion and Relevance, Ambition and Quality, Dynamism and Environmental Responsibility.

## **CREATIVE PROGRAMME 2024/25**

Akademi's creative programme is led from our core aims of health & wellbeing, environmental and climate emergency awareness, and research – all delivered by the means of South Asian dance performances and interventions.

Our creative programme activities comprise of touring productions, Pravaas and Plastic Drastic Fantastic and Learning and Participations programme areas of Dance Well, Reach Out and Reveal and Maitri-Too.

Akademi's portfolio of work is underpinned by our commitment to support and provide employment for independent South Asian dance artists, plus audience development and advocacy for South Asian dance forms on local, national and international scales.

## **Productions**

Akademi's current touring productions, Pravaas and Plastic Drastic Fantastic are both inspired by our commitment to awareness building through performance and creativity in response to the global climate emergency and sustainable action.

**Plastic Drastic Fantastic (PDF)** is a contemporary dance theatre work for children and their families which explores our complex relationship with plastics – the fantastic possibilities they offer, as well as the drastic consequences to the environment. Drawing from South Asian dance techniques, the production explores plastics and the dangers of their misuse through intricate movement, gestures and play infused with interaction with the audience.



## Akademi South Asian Dance UK

### Trustees Annual Report

Originally produced in 2022 with Polka Theatre London, PDF debuted with 49 performances at Polka and Waterman's London reaching over 1500 people. A 2023 tour with new cast of 3 took in 11 venues including Great Ormond Street Hospital London, well known regional theatres and 4 schools, performing 22 shows across England. Total audience figures were 1666 with 792 children / young people taking part in schools and family workshops. The production also includes relaxed performances, workshops for Special Educational Needs pupils and Q&A sessions with scientists and the production's cast and creatives.

In 2024/25 our commitment to reaching new audiences continued as PDF was remounted for 4 performances at London's Southbank Centre for 390 family & children audience and also at University College London East Earth Day (2 shows and 1 workshop for 160 primary school pupils) including talks and workshops for pupils delivered by scientists from University College London's Plastics Innovation Hub. Shows included wireless sensory-adapted cushions for accessibility. Akademi plans to continue to tour PDF in autumn 2025.

*"We used (Akademi's sensory cushions) yesterday's performance with two 7-year-olds. They both loved it."*  
Rockin.goodtimes.

*"Commendable effort (on Accessible cushions)! Wishing you success and hope more people become sensitive to everyone in society and around."* Mrugrajshrof on Instagram.

In early 2025, Akademi fulfilled an ambition to share our working practices around climate themes and audience accessibility **internationally** with our exchange partnership with the **University of Southern Mississippi (USM)**. Building on USM's visit to London in 2023, where the university's dance students participated in workshops with Akademi's Artistic Director, Suba then completed a two-week creative residency at USM to create a new version of the show on USM's students. Suba also delivered a series of talks and led technical practice sessions, providing students with valuable insights into the intersection of dance and digital innovation. The residency culminated in a presentation of a work-in-progress piece, which showcased Suba's ongoing exploration of dance and creative technology. The collaboration resulted in the production of PDF danced by the USM students for local primary school pupils in Hattiesburg Mississippi, and a school for deaf children, utilising the sensory cushions.

The themes of environmental awareness and, specifically, climate migration are front and centre with Akademi's other touring production, **Pravaas**. In 24/25 work was undertaken to promote the production to the outdoor circuit for remounting in 2026 in conjunction with the commissioner Without Walls and their Touring Network Partners. Akademi aims to reconfigure the production for the outdoor circuit with learning from the production's green rider, for a sustainable touring. Meanwhile, Pravaas was the inspiration for our school's collaboration, Maitri-Too (see below). In addition, Akademi has been successful with a British Council grant for a new international project drawing on the themes of Pravaas. **Dancestors** will create new works that reflect the experiences of marginalised communities. This initiative will involve workshops and performances in Malaysia, with the members of Malaysia's Orang Asli Semai community culminating in a large-scale work-in-progress in summer 2025.



## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

As part of the inaugural commissions by the V&A Museum for their new Storehouse, Akademi created 'Mehfooz' - a dance film project inspired by the Agra Colonnade, one of the largest architectural fragments to be displayed at the V&A East Storehouse. Choreographed by Shyam Dattani and filmed by Romain Beck, Mehfooz features 12 young emerging dance participants from the local community who took part in workshops exploring and interpreting the rich history of the Agra Colonnade and its place in modern UK society. The resulting dance film is displayed on a continuous loop at the V&A East Storehouse. The V&A East has invited Akademi to curate a day of events for summer 2025.

### **Learning & Participation Programme**

Akademi's established Learning & Participation activity portfolio continues to go from strength to strength, consolidating and deepening the impact of our work within SEND and mainstream schools through our programmes Reach Out and Reveal and Maitri Too, as well as in hospitals, care homes and community centres through Akademi's Dance Well programme.

As well as maintaining service delivery to our community partners, 2024/25 saw an emphasis on our monitoring, evaluation and research frameworks, working with artists and our host community settings to establish quantitative data pillars of impact alongside case studies, participant voices and observational studies. This evaluation is helping to illustrate the impact of our dance interventions in statistical form, showing participant developments and improvements across social, physical and well-being pillars whilst also guiding our practice to encourage innovation and learning.

2024/25 was also a year of research and planning for the future, continuing our formal research project in SEND schools with academics from Roehampton and Middlesex Universities, and building a new NHS client base and intel for expansion of Dance Well into UK wide hospitals. Akademi's work in mainstream schools has grown to facilitate collaboration between schools, and activities to engage EAL learners.

### **Health & Wellbeing Programmes**

#### **Dance Well -**

**Akademi's participatory and performance programme which aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people in the UK through the medium of South Asian Dance.**

Dance Well is delivered for people of all ages and abilities in a range of clinical and community settings including hospitals, care homes and community centres. Dance Well aims to encourage participants take part in more cultural and exercise activities, to help participants self-manage their chronic conditions through incorporating exercise into their daily routine and to positively impact patients' and staff wellbeing, social engagement and mental stimulation.

## Akademi South Asian Dance UK

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In 2024/25 across our two regular **London hospitals** (Chelsea and Westminster and West Middlesex), we fulfilled 47 full day dance and movement sessions reaching more than 500 participants through direct performance and participation within individual bays and in wider wards. Our movement interventions reached both older people and paediatric wards, involving families and staff in the sessions. This delivery is lower than last year due to CW+ (the hospital's Charitable Trust) consolidating their service request into delivery just at Chelsea and Westminster hospital later in the year.

Our Dance Well work in hospitals has been complimented by additional activity and new partnerships. In November 2023, Akademi took part in the Wellcome Collection's Perspective Tours event in conjunction with CW+ Arts for All programme. Akademi artists Jesal Patel, Shyam Dattani and Saloni Saraf showcased performances and presented techniques to engage patients with South Asian dance.

Akademi also returned to Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospital to perform at their lunchtime concert series organised by Breathe Arts Health Research.

Akademi has continued to develop our focus on specialist movement interventions utilizing South Asian dance forms in **Care Homes** for older community residents to improve physical, cognitive, and emotional wellbeing. Across our regular care homes settings in Camden, London (Spring Grove and Maitland Park) we delivered 98 sessions across the year for up to 25 residents per session. We have found that the use of expressive hand gestures (mudras) and the use of props have helped to maintain joint mobility, while footwork, balance drills, and adaptable movement sequences supported physical activity and strength building. Work with residents to develop, learn and lead short choreographies of their own has aided memory use, while the warm, welcoming and fun environment fosters social connection, self-expression, and meaningful friendships, all of which support emotional wellbeing. Care-home managers observed enhanced confidence in residents' movement, with reduced demand on care staff during transfers and meals.

*"One resident with mobility issues now wants to throw his walker away after Akademi sessions!"*

*"The hand exercises worked very well! Squeezing the ball helps with mobility and dexterity, particularly as many of our residents suffer from arthritis."*

Focus on extending our reach to more older participants resulted in a new partnership with **KYN Care Homes** group in Bromley and Hurlingham (Hammersmith and Fulham) London delivering 6 separate engagements across 2024. Participation was excellent, including older adults living with dementia, those with mobility issues and those recovering from surgery, along with family members and care home staff. In addition, Akademi's expertise in movement and health was commissioned by **Rambert and Colours of Redbridge** where we provided sessions for approximately 60 older people, disabled people and people with care and support needs at the Marjorie Collins Centre, Redbridge.

Akademi's work in **community centres** (88 sessions across Holborn Community Centre and Third Age Project Camden) also focuses on engagement with older adults delivering dance workshops for health and fitness and providing much needed social interaction.



## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

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*"The Dance Well sessions have had a transformative impact on our older adult community. Many of our service users face challenges such as isolation, reduced mobility and long-term health conditions. Dance Well offers more than just physical activity - it provides a joyful, culturally rich space for connection, self-expression, and improved wellbeing. Participants report feeling more confident, physically energised, and mentally uplifted after each session. The South Asian dance elements bring a unique cultural relevance, especially for our members from diverse backgrounds, sparking conversations, memories, and a sense of belonging. Importantly, the sessions are inclusive and adapted to meet varying levels of mobility, ensuring everyone can take part safely and with dignity."*

Third Age Project.

Across 2024/25 Akademi's Dance Well programme employed 12 freelance South Asian dance form artists, facilitators and performers and included shadowing and training opportunities for artists to develop their skills and experience in working within community settings and hospitals.

Dance Well is funded by The Linbury Trust with contributions from CW+ for the artist delivery in Chelsea & Westminster Hospital. 2024/25 is year 3 of a 3-year funding cycle for the Linbury Trust and we have embarked on a new national strategy to reapply to the Linbury Trust for a new funding cycle.

### **National Expansion of Dance Well**

Across 2024/25 we explored and researched the viability of the expansion of Dance Well to hospitals in regional areas. Utilising pro bono support from Create Equity via a public health consultant to work with the Executive Team, we identified strategy and routes to a new pipeline of potential NHS clients. These new connections and potential partnerships have strengthened Akademi's position within the national Arts and Health sector, enabling us to secure additional NHS contracts for Dance Well delivery while collaborating with research partners Breathe Arts and Health to develop innovative impact measurement and evaluation methodologies. A new 3-year strategic grant was submitted to the Linbury Trust for the continuation and expansion of Dance Well with funding of £150,000 across 3 years. Akademi has notification of the success of this application in summer 2025, alongside another successful grant from Sport England for work across 3 care homes. National rollout of Dance Well regional expansion will start in autumn 2025, with new NHS partners in the East and West Midlands and Oxfordshire. The new Linbury Trust grant and income from new NHS partners provides Akademi with a solid foundation for this exciting regional expansion of our work in community health settings. We will embark on a national capacity building and training programme to increase our pool of experienced South Asian dance artists to deliver the work.

### **Schools Programmes**

#### **Reach Out & Reveal (ROaR) –**

**Delivering South Asian dance workshops and interventions to pupils with Special Educational Needs / Disabilities (SEND) encompassing academic research project**



## Akademi South Asian Dance UK

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Reach Out & Reveal aims to support the physical, emotional and communication needs of children and young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders and SEND. Specialist Akademi practitioners provide weekly dance and movement sessions across partner schools, working closely with school and teaching staff. The unique movement vocabulary of South Asian dance provides participants with platforms for self-expression, creativity and enlivened social interactions, while fostering their core emotional development. The programme champions and evaluates new approaches, cultivating knowledge transfer opportunities between teaching professionals and dance practitioners.

In 2024/25, Reach Out & Reveal delivered 145 full school days of workshops across 5 SEND schools – reaching between 24 and 57 pupils per session at each school depending on the needs and abilities of the pupils during any given day. This year saw the development of our work for secondary SEND settings for the first time, resulting in an expansion of our reach in participant number and age ranges across our 5 partner schools:

- Manor School Brent
- Wembley Manor Secondary Brent
- The Avenue School Brent
- Netley School Camden
- Papillon House School Surrey.

The impact of ROaR on the SEND schools and their pupils has been significant in 2024/25. Evaluation has identified case studies evidencing real impact across the three key aims of the programme;

- a) young people will have increased creativity and self-initiation of expressive movement,
- b) young people will have increased and enlivened social interactions, and
- c) young people will have stronger core emotional development.

*"Y is one of the oldest children in the school and over the years we have seen her confidence grow and she is flourishing. She loves to be the centre of attention during Akademi's dance sessions and also helped narrate the school Christmas show. This year she has taken a newfound confidence and joined a drama club in Guildford".*

*R follows movements with increasing precision, and when dysregulated, dance helps him channel his energy in a structured way.*

*M eagerly anticipates her dance sessions, sharing her excitement with her mother, who records it in her communication book. "M tells her mum how much she looks forward to her dance. She sits at the window ready and watching out for her turn."*

This year represented year 3 (final) of our Paul Hamlyn Foundation funded SEND research and artist development running alongside the school workshop sessions. Via a comprehensive programme of training and shadowing we have successfully built our pool of South Asian dance form artists now skilled and experienced in providing meaningful movement intervention for SEND young people from 3 to 9 **specialist SEND South Asian dance practitioners**. This represents significant capacity building that benefits both our organisation and the broader arts and health sector.



## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

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Our commissioned academic research by Claire Farmer (Middlesex University) and Ashley McGill (Roehampton University) is due to be published in autumn 2025 with the findings disseminated as part of a SEND symposium organised by Akademi in early 2026.

#### **Maitri-Too –**

**Akademi's education programme, building links with primary and secondary schools exploring the themes of climate change through movement.**

Following a successful pilot project for Maitri (Sanskrit for 'friend') in 2023, and with continued funding from John Lyon's Charity, Maitri Too was launched in spring 2024 to provide South Asian dance workshops to pupils of Primary and Secondary schools in Brent with a focus on engaging English as Additional Language (EAL) students. Maitri Too provides enhanced cultural engagement through South Asian dance workshops culminating in a bold, new and exciting co-created outdoor dance piece for family audiences drawing on the themes of Pravaas - Akademi's show exploring climate migration. The stories behind Pravaas are emotionally engaging, illustrating the importance and power of community, togetherness and hope, while highlighting environmental issues that are relevant to all, but particularly the younger generation.

In spring 2024, Maitri-Too worked with 1 secondary school and 2 primary schools in Brent, delivering 18 dance sessions and 2 showcase performances for all school communities and families. Feedback from funders, John Lyon's Charity, highlighted how they were particularly impressed with the engagement from the schools and teachers within the project – truly embedding dance and creativity within the schools' agendas.

The success of Maitri-Too has resulted in an excellent engagement model that supports the ambitious collaboration of multiple schools and further embeds climate awareness work across our schools offer. After a third successful application to the John Lyon's Charity, Akademi is planning another 'Maitri' across 4 primary schools in Harrow in spring / summer 2025, with performances in June.

#### **Songs That Move Us –**

**music and dance project from THAMES (Tower Hamlets Arts and Music Education services) for KS2 students in Tower Hamlets.**

Commissioned by Tower Hamlets Arts and Music Education Service, Akademi delivered nine weekly workshops at Bigland Green Primary School for Year 5 pupils. The project featured South Asian dance and culture with a focus on co-creation, inviting participants to bring their own stories, ideas and histories into the creation process. Continuing Akademi's focus on diversity within schools, the project facilitated working with EAL pupils of Bengali heritage and their families with global songs and dance connected to the young people of Tower Hamlets and their communities. The workshops culminated in a public sharing at Shoreditch Town Hall in June 2024 to an audience of approximately 450 people.

### **Commissioned Performances & Community Events**

Akademi has been commissioned to curate and present a variety of performances and workshops at key community venues and public facing events. These events provide many different platforms to take South Asian dance to the wider public and local communities, often with participatory workshops whereby communities can get involved and learn South Asian dance movements. These events also provide much needed performance and freelance employment opportunities for our South Asian dance artists. Commissioned performances and community events also diversify Akademi's income stream and raise our public profile.

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### **Trustees Annual Report**

In 2024/25 Akademi curated and/or provided performers for the following:

- Hampstead Health Fun Day - community workshop - 100 audience.
- Tolmer's Square Festival – Akademi's HCA group performed – 150 audience.
- HCA's anniversary celebrations – 60 audience.
- Platform for Indian Democracy event – 400 audience.
- Devonshire Square Diwali Festival (Akademi's 6th time curating) – 300 audience and 14 artists employed.
- Greenwich Peninsula Diwali events (covered by ITV) – 134 family audience.
- Young V&A Museum Story Festival - 150 audience
- V&A Museum Make and Meet event – 80 audience for a live drawing workshop.

For South Asian Heritage Month (July-Aug) Akademi curated 7 events and employed 16 artists:

- South Asian Heritage month at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, Akademi presented a curated set of Bharatanatyam and Kathak performances by 2 artists in the hospital foyer – 60 audience
- Performances for Arriva Rail London at Shoreditch high Street Station – 250 audience
- Performances at Arriva Rails' headquarters in Southwark. 53 audience
- Camden Market Festival curated by Camden People's Theatre. The Dance Well Older adults' group from Holborn community Association performed. - 60 audience
- Three community workshops organised by British Museum – 30 audience
- Performance and workshop at Kings College London organised by their Race Equality Network. - 50 audience
- HCA older adult group's performance at Let's Dance campaign's press launch. 150 audience

## **Research & Higher Education Development**

In 2024/25 Akademi has continued to develop our Research and Higher Education connections as one of our focus areas. Our formal research project for Reach Out & Reveal (see above) is continuing with the creation of additional video documentation and research assets such as teacher packs. An article about the project was featured in the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science members newsletter and the researchers presented the project findings at the IADMS international conference in Italy in November 2024. The research paper is due for publication autumn 2025.



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Our application with the Centre for Dance Research at Coventry University for a PhD artist to explore **South Asian Dance as a Lens to Investigate Urgent Contemporary Narratives** was successful. This will create tangible, long-term partnership with an internationally renowned University for its dance research and a peer reviewed paper to demonstrate Akademi's impact and relay to the wider arts and HE sector. The doctoral research project will begin in autumn 2025.

Akademi continued our support of research by **South Asian Dance Equity (SADE)** seminars: The Arts British South Asian Dance Ignores" curated by Dr. Royona Mitra (Brunel University), Dr. Prarthana Purkayastha (Royal Holloway University, UK) and Dr. Anusha Kedhar (University of California, Riverside, USA). Akademi worked with SADE by promoting and hosting their webinars and an in-person discussions on South Asian Dance and LGBTQ+ Identities, and on Indigenous and Folk Cultures. The events were attended by a wide range of UK and international based South Asian artists and UK dance organisations.

Our Dance Well programme was featured as a case study in the book '**Arts for Health Dancing**' by Noyale Colin and Kathryn Stamp from C-Dare (Coventry University), launched at the Place London in January 2025. This is a testament to the powerful impact our programme has on the health and well-being of our community.

Jaime Corp, a postgraduate student of **Arts and Cultural Management at King's College London**, interviewed Akademi staff about Maitri Too as part of her research project which will explore the role of performing arts organisations in creating, delivering and evaluating educational programmes with primary schools. Akademi's Artistic Director is also on the advisory board of a research project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council - **Moving Online: Ontology and Ownership of Internet Dance**. It is led by Hetty Blades at Coventry University in partnership with One Dance UK and Sadler's Wells.

## Artist Support & Mentoring / South Asian Dance Sector Development

Akademi awarded 5 sector commissions of £5000 each to South Asian dance form artists for new work, including one tech commission supported by Dance East and their technical innovation suite. Artists were asked to respond to the themes close to Akademi's values; climate change, sustainability and health & wellbeing. 22 artists applied, with the commissions awarded to:

- Shivangee Agrawal (tech)
- Anjana Bala
- Divija Melally
- Kesha Raithatha
- Chandenie Gobardhan

This is a hugely exciting development for Akademi's associate artists and for the sector as we help to nurture emerging talent and encourage new productions for public audiences.

## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

As part of Akademi's commitment to supporting independent South Asian dance artists we continued our rolling mentoring programme. Delivered by Akademi's Artistic Director, with support from the wider team, mentoring comprises artist surgeries to discuss creative processes, funding support (funding application advice, in kind marketing support and financial contribution), on demand creative advisory sessions, and guidance for artists' making processes.

Artists supported by Akademi's staff team this year include:

- Sushmita Pati from Kala the Arts
- Smita Vadnerkar from Nupur Arts
- Shane Shambhu
- SADE Collective
- Nandita Shankardass' 'Roots to Rise
- Dance and Health Advancing Your Practice artist training by Emily Jenkins,
- Dance classes by KBB Dance Company
- ISTD's online courses
- SAA-UK's Sacred Music
- Manasamitra's concerts
- Jaivant Patel's Waltzing the Blue Gods and Samanta
- Performances by Amina Khayyam, Katie Ryan, Aakash Odedra and Aditi Mangaldas.
- Pagrav's new show 'Rooh' and Aunusthan
- Srishti School's new term
- Adity Dance's 'Who Am I'
- Artist work opportunities from Amina Khayyam, Yorkshire Dance, & Sangeet Kala Akademi
- Nupur Art's Anartam Festival
- Mentoring Krishna Zivraj Nair for 'Tree of Life'
- Mentoring artist Hamshya Kumar from Scotland on her R&D for an outdoor piece on environment.

Akademi delivered 1-1 mentoring via Artist surgeries for the following artists:

- Devaki Rajendran
- Gaurangi Mittal

## Akademi South Asian Dance UK

### Trustees Annual Report

- Chiinthu Sarvanan
- Ranjini Nair
- Nikita Agrawal
- Aarushi Thombare
- Umeshi Rajeendra
- Sneha Semaselan
- Akshay Sharma
- Rammani Mandal
- Sonali Mungur
- Parvathi Muthuswamy
- Praneeta Chaudhry
- Sarvani Yadavalli
- Srinidhi Sreeram

## Digital, Marketing, Audience Development

### Annual digital summary

<b>Facebook</b>	<b>Instagram</b>	<b>Twitter</b>	<b>YouTube</b>	<b>Website</b>
Total Reach: 27,092 44% of the target reached	Reach: 81,755 239% of the target reached	Total Impressions: 7449 40% of the target reached	Impressions: 191,800 7% of the target reached	Active users: 6462 142% of the target reached
Engagement: 2753 124% of the target reached	Interactions: 2619 91% of the target reached	Engagement: 642 107% of the target reached	Views: 36,566 15% of the target reached	Views: 20,193 88% of the target reached
Total Followers: 5046 95% of the target reached	Followers: 3282 114% of the target reached	Total Followers: 3204 90% of the target reached	Subscribers: 3587 87% of the target reached	Total visitors: 6462



**Annual reach and engagement summary (across all digital platforms)**

	Reach	Engagement
Target	2226750.74	90971.48
Actuals achieved	1,264,360	80724
% achieved against target	57%	89%

*\*Includes the data from table above along with platforms like Campaign Monitor, LinkedIn. Also includes figures for the Apotheosis film on British Museum's YouTube.*

**Year-end 2024-25** - Against the set targets of reach, we achieved 57% and 89% against the engagement targets.

**Key points and additional data**

- Our most successful recent campaigns have centred around Artist Commissions, Let's Dance, University of South Mississippi workshops and client events for South Asian Heritage Month and Diwali.
- A film was created by CW+ about their South Asian Heritage Month celebration where Akademi got a significant screen time highlighting our 26 years of partnership.
- We saw an increased engagement on our campaigns around the announcement of our new board members and projects like Dancestors.
- We continue to highlight the success of Akademi's film Apotheosis on the British Museum's YouTube channel.
- Instagram continues to be our most effective communication channel, while reach and engagement have significantly declined on other platforms, particularly Facebook.
- We have not taken some of the website data into account for comparison as data from the old website was skewed due to higher bots visit. The average session duration on the new website, however, has increased by 127% which is a significant achievement of its new content and design.
- Touring activity has been limited in 2024/25, with the exception of Plastic Drastic Fantastic at Southbank Centre and UCL East, and therefore a significant reduction in content creation opportunities.

For the next reporting period, we will shift from overall digital channel performance measurement to a focus on individual campaign/programme/project data. While this deviates from our ACE NPO agreed activity reporting, we believe it will provide a more accurate assessment of digital channel effectiveness.

**Press and PR**

- Suba was interviewed by journalist, Asad Ahmed, on BBC Radio London on 15 July about her views on cultural sector's call to support to the new Cultural Secretary, Lisa Nandy, who is of South Asian heritage herself.
- ZEE TV – Our performance at the India Ball on 27 September along with an interview with Director of Marketing & Operations, Antareepa Thakur, was featured in ZEE TV UK's 'Out and About' programme.

## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

- A blog by ROaR researchers was published in IADMS members newsletter about the research project.
- ITV covered our performances at the Greenwich Peninsula's Diwali celebrations.
- A press release on the Artist Commissions 2024 recipients was published by Dance Art Journal. They also followed it up with publishing interviews of three of the commissioned artists.

## **Environmental Responsibility**

Akademi recognises the imperative for arts organisations to do their part to develop environmentally sustainable operations, acknowledging the UK government's updated aims to reduce all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, compared with the previous target of at least 80% reduction from 1990 levels (source: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)).

We also recognise that environmental sustainability is important from a business perspective as well as an ethical one and we are committed to minimising the impact of Akademi's programme and business practices on the environment. Our environmental responsibility is emphasized through our creative production themes which are aimed at raising awareness on issues such as the impact of harmful materials on the environment and climate change and its consequences for climate migration. We are committed to using sustainable production practices such as the re-use of props and costumes and take active steps to ensure that these practices are written into contracts with artists and partner settings.

In 2024/25 we continued to develop our aims around our environmental responsibility as follows:

- To continue to embed the themes of environmental responsibility in the creative output of our production work (currently Pravaas and Plastic Drastic Fantastic) to raise awareness, educate and instill a sense of practical positive action in audiences to tackle the environmental crisis.
- For example, Akademi took part in the 101 Newbury Green Forum early December and helping to facilitate the event. This reflects Akademi's profile as a leader in creating sustainable outdoor work.
- To ensure our production processes are sustainable, developing green riders and best practice policies in sustainability for outdoor work and touring methodologies. Work this year has included sharing practice around creating sustainable shows.
- To follow our environment impact policy to reduce carbon footprint in all areas of our office environment and administration – encouraging our building manager to review and improve building sustainability.
- To build environmental impact statements and considerations in contracts and discussions with our wider freelance workforce – for example making provision, funds and time for public transport rather than car travel.
- To encourage sustainable activities within our staff and associated artists and to actively support endeavors such as lending costume and equipment for reuse. We have an ongoing inventory of costume available for other artists to repurpose, borrow or hire for a small fee.



## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

- To mentor and support artists to explore their own practice in regard to environmental sustainability and through themes of their work. Examples include mentoring artist Hamshya Kumar on her R&D for an outdoor piece about the sensitivity of ground nesting Birds to our human movements. Her vision is of blending Bharatanatyam and contemporary elements with topical narratives, especially around environment. Akademi has committed to contribute in-kind through mentoring and marketing support total value of which will amount to £1300.

## **Organisational Development**

Akademi underwent a process of Trustee tenure audit and development throughout 2024. We bid farewell to some longstanding Trustees who had brilliantly guided and supported the organisation through the last few years, including the challenges of the pandemic. Following the resignation of the Chair, Keith Khan, due to new work commitments, Trustee Hannah Dye was appointed to the role of Chair and to help (with a Board subgroup nominations committee) facilitate a recruitment drive for new trustees. A successful campaign and recruitment process resulted in the onboarding of 4 new trustees throughout the year, alongside the phased retirement of 5 previous trustees (Akademi retains the existing Treasurer and Secretary). The new Board of 7 provides an experienced and exciting group, with diverse skills and experiences combining to form a dynamic governance team.

## **Future Development and Funding**

- Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding continues with an excellent relationship with our Arts Council England Relationship Manager. 2024/25 is year two of four years as ACE has added an additional year to the 3-year funding cycle. Akademi's risk rating continues to be classed as 'low'.
- A second phase of our work to take South Asian dance to schools in Brent & Harrow was successful with the creation of 'Maitri-Too', funded by the John Lyon's Foundation at £25,600.
- Akademi secured £17K in hospital trust and commissions income for Dance Well services during 2024/25.
- Linbury Trust funding for Dance Well Expansion from autumn 2025 was successful £150K over 3 years.
- BBC Children In Need awarded a further 3 years of funding totalling £42K for our work in SEND schools in Camden, London, starting autumn 2025.
- Sport England confirmed funding of £14,400 for our work in Camden care homes.

## **Financial Review**

Full details of the income and expenditure are set out in the financial statements. All funds have been applied in direct furtherance of Akademi's aims.

At 31st March 2025, The unrestricted reserves are £437,649; £285,434 of these are designated funds leaving free reserves of £152,215.

The charity does not hold any of its reserves in investments. Surplus cash is held in a 90-day notice savings account and short-term bank deposit accounts.



## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

Akademi continues to exert tight control on expenditure and identified several areas of saving during the year, making significant use of charity discounts.

#### **Reserves policy**

Akademi needs reserves to meet liabilities in the event of being unable to secure funding, factors beyond Akademi's control such as the decision of a funder to cease funding, failure of a partner organisation or other debtor.

Free reserves are defined as income that becomes available to Akademi and is to be spent at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of Akademi's objectives but which is not yet spent, committed or designated.

The reserves policy is reviewed annually by the trustees, with the most recent review in October 2023. The review is managed by Akademi's Executive Director and takes into account projected cash flow forecasts and a risk assessment.

Akademi reviews its reserves policy annually taking into account current operating costs and risks associated with income required to deliver our business plan objectives. Trustees have assessed that a reserves target equivalent to 6-9 months' core operating costs (approximately £25,000 per month) is prudent in the current financial climate, and this is backed by a review of income risks for 2024-25. The reserves target is therefore £150k - £200k.

#### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Akademi for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

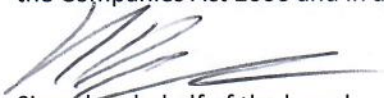
## **Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### **Small company provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

  
Signed on behalf of the board

Hannah Dye  
Chair of Trustees  
06 October 2025

**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
**Independent Examiners Report**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Akademi South Asian Dance UK**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Akademi South Asian Dance UK for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's financial statements as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.


**Independent examiner's statement**

As the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Associate Chartered Accountant (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the 2006 Act ; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements under section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Mrs Luna Muncaster Associate Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)  
Luna Muncaster Ltd  
40 Vera Avenue  
Grange Park  
London  
N21 1RG  
06 October 2025



**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Notes				
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	4	251,997	234,580	486,577	587,352
Investments	5	3,669	-	3,669	4,054
Other	6	-	-	-	11,843
<b>Total</b>		<b>255,666</b>	<b>234,580</b>	<b>490,246</b>	<b>603,249</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	7	30,046	150,233	180,279	226,859
Other	8	250,987	76,984	327,971	324,257
<b>Total</b>		<b>281,033</b>	<b>227,217</b>	<b>508,250</b>	<b>551,116</b>
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>		<b>(25,367)</b>	<b>7,363</b>	<b>(18,004)</b>	<b>52,133</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net (expenditure)/income before other gains/(losses)</b>		<b>(25,367)</b>	<b>7,363</b>	<b>(18,004)</b>	<b>52,133</b>
<b>Other gains and losses</b>					
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(25,367)</b>	<b>7,363</b>	<b>(18,004)</b>	<b>52,133</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		463,016	31,604	494,620	442,487
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>437,649</b>	<b>38,967</b>	<b>476,616</b>	<b>494,620</b>

**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
**Summary Income and Expenditure Account**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Income	486,577	599,195
Interest and investment income	3,669	4,054
<b>Gross income for the year</b>	<u>490,246</u>	<u>603,249</u>
Expenditure	508,250	551,116
<b>Total expenditure for the year</b>	<u>508,250</u>	<u>551,116</u>
Net (expenditure)/income before tax for the year	(18,004)	52,133
<b>Net (expenditure )/income for the year</b>	<u>(18,004)</u>	<u>52,133</u>



**Akademi South Asian Dance UK****Balance Sheet**at **31 March 2025**

<b>Company No.</b>	<b>05294528</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2025</b> £	<b>2024</b> £
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
Tangible assets		11	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors		12	32,389	22,716
Cash at bank and in hand			481,623	517,447
			514,012	540,163
<b>Creditors: Amount falling due within one year</b>		13	(37,396)	(45,543)
<b>Net current assets</b>			476,616	494,620
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			476,616	494,620
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset or liability</b>			476,616	494,620
<b>Total net assets</b>			476,616	494,620
<b>The funds of the charity</b>				
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted income funds		14	38,967	31,604
			38,967	31,604
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General funds		14	152,215	205,109
Designated funds			285,434	257,907
			437,649	463,016
<b>Reserves</b>				
		14		
<b>Total funds</b>			476,616	494,620

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

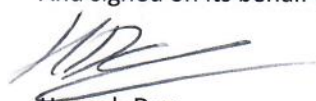
For the year ended 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

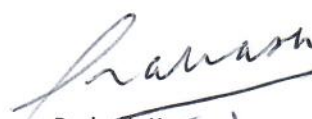
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the board on 06 October 2025

And signed on its behalf by:



Hannah Dye  
Chair of Trustees  
06 October 2025



Prakash Kurup  
Treasurer

**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
**Statement of Cash flows**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
<b>Net (expenditure)/income per Statement of Financial Activities</b>	(18,004)	52,133
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(3,669)	(15,897)
Other gains/losses	-	-
(Increase)/Decrease in trade and other receivables	(9,673)	14,929
(Decrease)/Increase in trade and other payables	(8,147)	12,452
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities</b>	<u>(39,493)</u>	<u>63,617</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	3,669	15,897
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>	<u>3,669</u>	<u>15,897</u>
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	(35,824)	79,514
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>	517,447	437,933
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<u>481,623</u>	<u>517,447</u>
<b>Components of cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Cash and bank balances	481,623	517,447
	<u>481,623</u>	<u>517,447</u>



**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**1 Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

**Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts**

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

**Income**

Recognition of income	Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
Donations and legacies	Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.
Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

**Notes to the Accounts**

**Expenditure**

Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

All assets costing more than £750 are capitalised at their cost to the charity.

**Trade and other debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

**Trade and other creditors**

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.



## Notes to the Accounts

**Pension costs**

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the company has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the company in independently administered funds.

**Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services**

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

**2 Company status**

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

**3 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	235,882	351,470	587,352
Investments	4,054	-	4,054
Other	11,843	-	11,843
<b>Total</b>	<b>251,779</b>	<b>351,470</b>	<b>603,249</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities	22,271	206,638	228,909
Other	128,312	193,895	322,207
<b>Total</b>	<b>150,583</b>	<b>400,533</b>	<b>551,116</b>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>101,196</b>	<b>(49,063)</b>	<b>52,133</b>
<b>Net income before other gains/(losses)</b>	<b>101,196</b>	<b>(49,063)</b>	<b>52,133</b>
<b>Other gains and losses:</b>			
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>101,196</b>	<b>(49,063)</b>	<b>52,133</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
Total funds brought forward	361,820	80,667	442,487
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>463,016</b>	<b>31,604</b>	<b>494,620</b>

**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**4 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Arts Council England	219,163	-	219,163	219,467
Create Equity	20,000	-	20,000	-
Dance Well: Linbury Trust / NHS Trusts / Care Homes	-	56,955	56,955	16,415
ROAR: Paul Hamlyn Foundation / BBC Children In Need	-	114,940	114,940	98,765
Community and Curatorial	12,834	-	12,834	106,195
MAITRI	-	25,600	25,600	25,600
Plastic Drastic Fantastic	-	16,248	16,248	73,727
Without Walls / Pravaas	-	-	-	47,183
Dancestors	-	7,997	7,997	-
Songs That Move Us	-	2,250	2,250	-
V&A Agra	-	10,590	10,590	-
	<u>251,997</u>	<u>234,580</u>	<u>486,577</u>	<u>587,352</u>

In 2024, of the total income from grants and charitable activities, £235,882 was from unrestricted funds and £351,470 was from restricted funds.

**5 Income from investments**

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Bank interest	3,669	3,669	4,054
	<u>3,669</u>	<u>3,669</u>	<u>4,054</u>

**6 Other income**

	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£
Other donations	-	11,843
	<u>-</u>	<u>11,843</u>



**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**7 Expenditure on charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Charitable activities	28,008	150,233	178,241	225,498
<i>Governance costs</i>				
Trustees' meeting costs	2,038	-	2,038	1,361
	<u>30,046</u>	<u>150,233</u>	<u>180,279</u>	<u>226,859</u>

**8 Other expenditure**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Advertising and corporate fundraising	3,061	3,936	6,997	6,061
Employee costs	199,500	53,292	252,792	241,027
Staff training and staff welfare	6,971	736	7,707	1,124
Motor and travel costs	3,981	2,002	5,983	26,805
Premises costs	17,648	14,158	31,806	28,325
General administrative costs	11,232	2,860	14,092	17,290
Legal and professional costs	8,594	-	8,594	3,625
	<u>250,987</u>	<u>76,984</u>	<u>327,971</u>	<u>324,257</u>

**9 Trustee remuneration and expenses**

	<b>2025 Number</b>	<b>2024 Number</b>
The nature of the reimbursed expenses	The charity trustees were not paid or did not receive any other benefits from the charity in the year, neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year.	

## Notes to the Accounts

## 10 Staff costs

	2025	2024
Salaries and wages	169,679	155,153
Social security costs	60,909	62,055
Pension costs	21,704	23,819
	<u>252,292</u>	<u>241,027</u>

The joint CEOs received emoluments below £60,000 during the year. (During 2024 this was below £60,000).

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Direct charitable activities	3	3
Fundraising	-	-
Management and administration	3	3
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

## 11 Tangible fixed assets

	£	£
<b>Cost or revaluation</b>		
At 1 April 2024	75,802	75,802
At 31 March 2025	<u>75,802</u>	<u>75,802</u>
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>		
At 1 April 2024	75,802	75,802
At 31 March 2025	<u>75,802</u>	<u>75,802</u>
<b>Net book values</b>		
At 31 March 2025	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

## 12 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	-	2,850
Other debtors	11,843	11,843
Prepayments and accrued income	20,546	8,023
	<u>32,389</u>	<u>22,716</u>



**Akademi South Asian Dance UK****Notes to the Accounts****13 Creditors:**

amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other creditors	4,892	8,380
Accruals	21,411	17,163
Deferred income	11,093	20,000
	<u>37,396</u>	<u>45,543</u>

## 14 Movement in funds

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses) £	Resources expended £	Gross transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
<b>Restricted income funds:</b>					
Dance Well: Linbury Trust /					
NHS Trusts / Care Homes	-	56,955	(56,955)	-	0
Plastic Drastic Fantastic	4,558	16,248	(15,229)	-	5,577
ROAR: Paul Hamlyn					
Foundation / BBC Children In					
Need	-	114,940	(114,940)	-	0
Maitri: John Lyon's Charity	27,046	25,600	(27,252)	-	25,394
Dancestors	-	7,997	-	-	7,997
Songs That Move Us	-	2,250	(2,250)	-	-
V&A Agra	-	10,590	(10,590)	-	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,604</b>	<b>234,580</b>	<b>(227,217)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>38,967</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>					
<b>General funds</b>	<b>205,109</b>	<b>255,666</b>	<b>(258,560)</b>	<b>(50,000)</b>	<b>152,215</b>
<b>Designated funds:</b>					
Strategic Development	30,892	-	(9,391)	-	21,501
Dance Production	96,198	-	-	-	96,198
Artist and Artform					
Development	52,570	-	(13,082)	-	39,488
Community and Education	78,247	-	-	50,000	128,247
<b>Total</b>	<b>257,907</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(22,473)</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>285,434</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>494,620</b>	<b>490,246</b>	<b>(508,250)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>476,616</b>

Purposes and restrictions in relation to the funds:

Restricted funds:

Dance Well: Linbury Trust /	Funding for community dance & health programme
NHS Trusts / Care Homes	
Plastic Drastic Fantastic	Individual commissioned performances for private or corporate events
ROAR: Paul Hamlyn	Funding for Reach Out and Reveal (SEND project).
Foundation / BBC Children In	
Need	
Maitri: John Lyon's Charity	A series of Bollywood workshops across secondary and feeder primary schools to aid transition and engagement in dance, delivered in Brent, London.

Designated funds:



## Akademi South Asian Dance UK

### Notes to the Accounts

Strategic Development	For organisational support during the difficult economic climate.
Dance Production	For future dance productions
Artist and Artform Development	For work associated with Artist and South Asian dance development
Community and Education	For community and education support or development

#### 15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Net current assets	437,946	38,670	476,616
	<u>437,946</u>	<u>38,670</u>	<u>476,616</u>

#### 16 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 April 2024	Cash flows	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	517,447	(35,824)	481,623
	<u>517,447</u>	<u>(35,824)</u>	<u>481,623</u>
Net debt	<u>517,447</u>	<u>(35,824)</u>	<u>481,623</u>

#### 17 Commitments

##### *Operating lease commitments*

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 Land and buildings	2025 Other	2024 Land and buildings	2024 Other
	£	£	£	£
Operating leases with expiry date:				
Over five years	23,824	-	23,824	-
	<u>23,824</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,824</u>	<u>-</u>

##### *Pension commitments*

	2025 £	2024 £
The pension cost charge to the company amounted to:	<u>21,704</u>	<u>23,819</u>
Unpaid contributions due to the fund are included in other creditors and amounted to:	<u>-</u>	<u>7,585</u>

#### 18 Related party disclosures

##### *Controlling party*

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital; thus no single party controls the company.

**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**  
**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies				
Arts Council England	219,163	-	219,163	219,467
Create Equity	20,000		20,000	-
Dance Well: Linbury Trust / NHS Trusts / Care Homes	-	56,955	56,955	16,415
ROAR: Paul Hamlyn Foundation / BBC Children In Need	-	114,940	114,940	98,765
Community and Curatorial MAITRI	12,834	-	12,834	106,195
Plastic Drastic Fantastic	-	25,600	25,600	25,600
Without Walls / Pravaas	-	16,248	16,248	73,727
Dancestors	-	-	-	47,183
Songs That Move Us	-	7,997	7,997	-
V&A Agra	-	2,250	2,250	-
	-	10,590	10,590	-
	251,997	234,580	486,577	587,352
Investments				
Bank interest	3,669	-	3,669	4,054
	3,669	-	3,669	4,054
Other				
Other donations	-	-	-	11,843
	-	-	-	11,843
<b>Total income and endowments</b>	<b>255,666</b>	<b>234,580</b>	<b>490,246</b>	<b>603,249</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities				
Charitable activities	28,008	150,233	178,241	225,498
	28,008	150,233	178,241	225,498
Governance costs				
Trustees' meeting costs	2,038	-	2,038	1,361
	2,038	-	2,038	1,361
<b>Total of expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<b>30,046</b>	<b>150,233</b>	<b>180,279</b>	<b>226,859</b>
Other expenditure				
Advertising and corporate fundraising	3,061	3,936	6,997	6,061
	3,061	3,936	6,997	6,061
Employee costs				
Salaries/wages	130,168	39,511	169,679	155,153
Employer's NIC	49,333	11,576	60,909	62,055



**Akademi South Asian Dance UK**
**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

Pension costs	19,499	2,205	21,704	23,819
Staff recruitment	500	-	500	-
Staff training	1,024	100	1,124	-
Staff welfare	5,947	636	6,583	1,124
	<u>206,471</u>	<u>54,028</u>	<u>260,499</u>	<u>242,151</u>
Motor and travel costs				
Travel and subsistence	3,981	2,002	5,983	26,805
	<u>3,981</u>	<u>2,002</u>	<u>5,983</u>	<u>26,805</u>
Premises costs				
Rent	14,543	13,075	27,618	23,825
Rates	1,647	549	2,196	2,074
Premises insurances	1,458	534	1,992	2,426
	<u>17,648</u>	<u>14,158</u>	<u>31,806</u>	<u>28,325</u>
General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation				
Bank charges	633	-	633	641
Equipment repairs and maintenance	4	449	453	-
Software, IT support and related costs	5,607	1,619	7,226	5,292
Stationery and printing	43	-	43	692
Subscriptions	1,554	-	1,554	3,362
Sundry expenses	3,391	772	4,163	7,260
Telephone, fax and broadband	-	20	20	43
	<u>11,232</u>	<u>2,860</u>	<u>14,092</u>	<u>17,290</u>
Legal and professional costs				
Audit/Independent examination fees	2,200	-	2,200	2,050
Consultancy fees	6,394	-	6,394	1,575
	<u>8,594</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,594</u>	<u>3,625</u>
<b>Total of expenditure of other costs</b>	<u>250,987</u>	<u>76,984</u>	<u>327,971</u>	<u>324,257</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>281,033</u>	<u>227,217</u>	<u>508,250</u>	<u>551,116</u>
Net gains on investments	-	-	-	-
	<u>(25,367)</u>	<u>7,363</u>	<u>(18,004)</u>	<u>52,133</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>				
<b>Net (expenditure)/income before other gains/(losses)</b>	<u>(25,367)</u>	<u>7,363</u>	<u>(18,004)</u>	<u>52,133</u>
Other Gains	-	-	-	-
	<u>(25,367)</u>	<u>7,363</u>	<u>(18,004)</u>	<u>52,133</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>				
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Total funds brought forward	463,016	31,604	494,620	442,487
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u>437,649</u>	<u>38,967</u>	<u>476,616</u>	<u>494,620</u>

