

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05491570 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1110638

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025
FOR**

HOME-START READING LTD

**D C Dobby ACIB
Tilehurst
Reading
Berkshire**

HOME-START READING LTD

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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HOME-START READING LTD
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' 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)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Charity number: 1110638

Company number: 05491570

Registered Office: 7 Southcote Parade, Southcote Farm Lane, Reading, Berkshire, RG30 3DT

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows.

Catherine Troup	Chair
Kelly Dadd	Secretary
Mark Lewthwaite	Treasurer
Jacqueline Burrage	
Christopher Guy	Resigned 25.04.2025
Anna Vorster	
Sally Moore	Appointed 05.04.2024
Andy Degiorgio	Appointed 14.08.2024
Danielle Hinds	Appointed 16.01.2025
Mary Wilson	Appointed 16.01.2025
Sue Biggs	Resigned 25.04.2025

Independent Examiner

D C Dobby ACIB
Tilehurst
Reading
Berkshire

Governing Document

Home Start Reading is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Appointment of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association the chair of the trustees is nominated by the executive committee. Nominations for the election to the committee are considered and voted upon at the Annual General Meeting. The maximum number of members of the executive shall be no more than twelve.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

Home-Start Reading works to a number of robust policies required by Home-Start UK including Health and Safety, Financial Management and Controls, and GDPR/Data Protection and Confidentiality.

These policies and practices are regularly reviewed by Trustees.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Objects of the Charity are :

1. To safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both mental and physical of children and parents of children.
2. To prevent cruelty to or maltreatment of children
3. To relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children
4. To promote the education of the public in better standards of childcare

Within the are of Reading and its environs

Significant activities

Homestart Readings main activity in pursuit of its objectives is to provide a voluntary home-visiting scheme offering friendly, knowledgeable and practical help to Reading families with at least one child under 5 who may be going through a difficult time, and in providing targeted group activities and programmes according to specific needs.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The Charity provides an Annual Report for adoption at its AGM and then available on its website giving statistics and a narrative about its various activities in supporting families at home and through group activities, recording outputs and measures of the families' progress and satisfaction with their support. In 2024/25 the Charity supported 93 families.

REPORTING PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Charity provides an Annual Report for adoption at its AGM and then available on its website giving statistics and a narrative about its various activities in supporting families at home and through group activities, recording outputs and measures of the families' progress and satisfaction with their support.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of the year

Income increased by 49% on the previous year. This was driven primarily by the fact that the previous year included a gap in multi-year funding from both the Big Lottery and Children in Need which were subsequently renewed following successful reapplications.

Expenditure decreased by 12% on the previous year. This was driven in the main by staff reductions made towards the end of 2023/24.

A total surplus for the year of £39,009 was used to increase the designated reserves by £7,832, and £14,084 is restricted but is expected to be used fully in 2025/26. The remaining £17,093 is unrestricted but maintains our unrestricted reserves at 6 months of running costs in line with our Policy and Charity Commission guidelines.

Providing adequate funding for the essential administrative infrastructure to support the charity's many services remains a very considerable challenge. Home-Start Reading are very grateful for all the grants and donations received in the year, and are continuing to depend on such grants and donations to provide their services in the community.

The trustees have recognised the uncertainties in relation to the Charity's future funding and have further increased their efforts to source new and alternative funding streams to maintain the charity. However, there remains a shortfall in secured funding and expected donations for the financial year ending 31st March 2026.

Reserves policy

In determining the reserves policy of the charity, the Trustees consider the levels of risk and operating expenses required. It is the Trustees' goal to create sufficient unrestricted reserves to cover at least six months' normal operating expenses. The 6 months is based upon the fact that Home-Start Reading deals with vulnerable families who would require sufficient notice in the event that the charity were to cease operations.

The designated reserve is to cover all staff obligations and some expenses that would be required in the event that the Charity was to close. The valuation of these obligations are recalculated every year.

The Charity's reserves are deemed to be adequate in terms of risk.

Funds in deficit

None

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Catherine Troup - Chair

Date:

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
HOME-START READING LTD**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 set out on pages five to thirteen.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

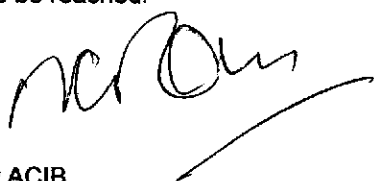
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met or

(2) to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



D C Dobby ACIB
Tilehurst
Reading
Berkshire

Date

17/7

2025

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	Designated	Total	2024 Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds		
		£	£	£	£	£
Notes						
INCOME						
Donations and grants	2	147,156	19,500	-	166,656	113,020
Income from Investments		547	-	-	547	137
Other Income	2		-	-	0	-
Total income		147,703	19,500	-	167,203	113,157
EXPENDITURE						
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	4	122,778	5,416	-	128,194	145,192
Total expenses		122,778	5,416	-	128,194	145,192
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		24,925	14,084	-	39,009	(32,035)
Transfer of Funds		(7,832)		7,832	-	-
		17,093	14,084	7,832	39,009	(32,035)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward	10					
Unrestricted funds		63,595	-	-	63,595	79,291
Restricted funds		-	-	-	0	16,340
Designated funds		-	-	31,524	31,524	31,524
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		80,688	14,084	39,356	134,128	95,120

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BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2025

		2025				2024
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds		Restated
		£	£	£	£	£
Notes						
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible Assets	7	-	-	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	8	7,076	-	-	7,076	0
Cash at bank and in hand		129,415	14,084	49,856	193,355	142,125
		136,491	14,084	49,856	200,431	142,125
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(55,803)		-	(55,803)	(47,005)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		80,688	14,084	49,856	144,628	95,120
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		80,688	14,084	49,856	144,628	95,120
Liabilities due in greater than one year				-10,500	(10,500)	-
NET ASSETS		80,688	14,084	39,356	144,628	95,120
FUNDS						
Unrestricted funds	11	80,688	-	-	80,688	63,596
Restricted funds	11	-	14,084	-	14,084	-
Designated Funds	11	-	-	39,356	39,356	31,524
TOTAL FUNDS		80,688	14,084	39,356	134,128	95,120

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BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31 MARCH 2025

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 for the year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 396.

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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015)- (Charities SORP (FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 July 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Catherine Troup - Chair

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CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW		
Net Cash provided by Operating activities	51,230	(22,028)
Purchase of equipment	-	-
Net Cash provided by Operating activities	<u>51,230</u>	<u>(22,028)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	51,230	(22,028)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	<u>142,125</u>	<u>164,153</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u><u>193,355</u></u>	<u><u>142,125</u></u>
 RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income/ expenditure for the year as per the statement of financial activities	39,009	(32,035)
Depreciation charges	0	0
Decrease/(Increase) in Debtors	(7,076)	3,518
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	19,297	6,489
Net Cash provided by operating activities	<u><u>51,230</u></u>	<u><u>(22,028)</u></u>
 ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at Bank and in hand	<u><u>193,355</u></u>	<u><u>142,125</u></u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015)- (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the resource; the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Unrestricted incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities to match periods when the services relating to these grants are delivered. Resources received for future periods are deferred.

We only record grants and expenditure as restricted where the grant is for a very specific expense e.g. to fund a specific post or to deliver a group or course that is over and above our core home visiting service.

Where grants could be designated as restricted but they are for core services, and expensed fully in the year, we account for these as unrestricted.

Unrestricted incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities to match periods when the services relating to these grants are delivered. Resources received for future periods are deferred.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

Include costs of preparation and examination of statutory accounts and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Computer Equipment - straight line over 3 years.

Taxation

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Designated Funds

Designated funds are used for monies set aside from the general fund for a specific purpose.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contributions pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Going concern

The trustees have recognised the uncertainties in relation to the Charity's future funding and have further increased their efforts to source new and alternative funding streams to maintain the charity.

The Trustees are of the opinion that Homestart Reading is a going concern but given the uncertainties it is prudent to hold a reserve for the event of closure. This is represented by the designated reserve.

2. Income from Donations and Grants

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	42,033	45,202
Grants	119,123	67,818
Fund Raising	5,500	-
	166,656	113,020

3 Bank Interest

	547	137
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff Costs	104,243	118,589
Termination costs	-	3,759
Family groups	2,311	685
Family projects activity costs	6,332	7,810
Rent, rates and service charges	1,795	1,701
Insurance	1,366	1,500
Telephone, broadband & website	3,549	3,819
IT Costs	1,489	-
Office costs incl. Printing, postage and stationery & payroll	1,956	1,524
Payroll Services	890	-
Repairs and renewals	454	94
Staff Training	525	486
Fund Raising costs	1,247	1,488
Professional fees	-	1,013
Depreciation	-	-
Governance costs (see note 4)	-	-
Homestart UK Levy	2,037	2,724
	128,194	145,192

5 Analysis of governance costs

AGM and trustees meetings	-	-
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6 Staff Costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	100,753	110,159
Employer's national insurance costs	2,030	7,397
Overpayment of Prior years NI recovered	(3,578)	
Pension costs	5,038	4,792
	<u>104,243</u>	<u>122,348</u>

Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023
(2021 - Nil)

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:-

	2025	2024
Charitable Activities	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>

7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer Equipment £	Computer Equipment £
COST		
Balance at 1 April 2024	6,238	6,238
Disposals in Year	-6,238	-6,238
Balance at 31 March 2025	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

DEPRECIATION

Balance at 1 April 2022	6,238	6,238
Disposals in Year	-6,238	-6,238
Balance at 31 March 2023	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 March 2024	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

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**NOTES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other debtors	-	-
Accrued income	-	-
Prepayments	7,076	0
	<u>7,076</u>	<u>0</u>

9 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	856	1,699
Other Creditors	4,585	15,806
Deferred income	50,362	29,500
	<u>55,803</u>	<u>47,005</u>

10 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total Funds £	2024 £
Balance at 1st April 2024	63,595	0	31,524	95,119	127,155
Incoming resources	147,703	19,500	-	167,203	113,157
Resources expended	(122,778)	(5,416)	-	(128,194)	(145,192)
Net movement in funds	<u>24,925</u>	<u>14,084</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,009</u>	<u>(32,035)</u>
Transfer between Funds	(7,832)	-	7,832	-	-
Balance at 31st March 2025	<u>80,688</u>	<u>14,084</u>	<u>39,356</u>	<u>134,128</u>	<u>95,120</u>

HOME-START READING LTD

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	2025 Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total	2024 Total
	£	£		£	£
INCOME					
Donations	45,202		-	45,202	45,202
Grants	65,511	19,500	-	85,011	67,818
Fund Raising	-	-	-	0	-
	110,713	19,500	-	130,213	113,020
Investment income	137	-	-	137	137
	110,850	19,500	-	130,350	113,157
Total incoming resources	110,850	19,500	-	130,350	113,157
EXPENDITURE					
Expenditure on Charitable Activities					
Staff Costs	98,827	5,416		104,243	118,589
Redundancy Costs	-	-		0	3,759
Family groups	2,311	-		2,311	685
Family projects activity costs	6,332	-		6,332	7,810
Rent, rates and service charges	1,795	-		1,795	1,701
Insurance	1,366	-		1,366	1,500
Telephone, broadband and website	3,549	-		3,549	3,819
Office costs	1,956	-		1,956	1,524
IT support costs	1,489	-		1,489	-
Repairs and renewals	454	-		454	94
Sundries	-	-		0	0
Staff Training	525	-		525	486
Fund raising costs	1,247	-		1,247	1,488
Professional fees	890	-		890	1,013
Homestart UK Levy	2,037	-		2,037	2,724
Fundraising Costs	-	-		0	-
Trustees meetings	-	-		0	-
	122,778	5,416	0	128,194	145,192
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES	(11,928)	14,084	-	2,156	(32,035)