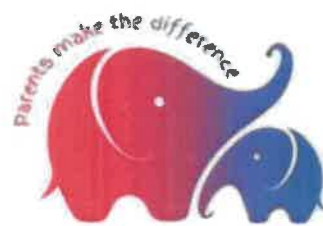


**THE FOUNDATION YEARS TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**



Foundation Years Trust

**The Foundation Years Trust
Contents**

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The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Objectives and Activities

Articles of Association

- To promote the education, including social and physical training of people.
- To prevent and relieve poverty or financial hardship by providing education and training in all necessary support, including assistance to find employment.

Mission Statement

To promote the education and development of young children by equipping parents, carers, and communities with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to support early learning. Through adult education and training, we aim to strengthen the Home Learning Environment and contribute to closing the attainment gap that exists between children from different communities.

Aim

To improve developmental and educational outcomes for children aged 0–5 by strengthening the skills and confidence of the adults around them—particularly in families facing poverty of opportunity—through early intervention, education, and training.

Objectives

- To reduce the impact of poverty on early childhood outcomes by supporting adults to build skills, confidence, and pathways to further learning or employment.
- To improve the Home Learning Environment by facilitating and supporting parents and carers to engage in meaningful interactions that promote children's development, wellbeing, and school readiness.
- To deliver accessible, evidence-based education and training for early years practitioners and other key adults who influence young children's learning.
- To collaborate with local partners and communities to ensure inclusive, culturally responsive support for families with young children.
- To evaluate and adapt our programmes using feedback and data to ensure continuous improvement and measurable impact.

Public Benefit

The Trust identified the Home Learning Environment (HLE) as being a significant lever in improving the life chances of children. The attainment gap between children living in economic disadvantage and those from more affluent backgrounds remains significant, despite nurseries and schools' work to improve over the years. Using evidence-based frameworks to provide adult learning programmes for parents/ carers and other significant adults, we aim to improve adult interaction with babies and young children.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charitable company should undertake.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

Main Achievements

The Trust continued to offer high quality activities for families with 0-5-year-olds in community venues, through schools and ad-hoc events.

The team delivered Peep Learning Together training to 7 schools in late 2024, so these schools began delivering this programme during 2025. We also trained two local charities in this programme.

The work in schools has recently been funded by Northern Consortium, allowing schools to have the programme free of charge. Further funding enabled the team to deliver three sets of Early Readers groups and a further two sets of our Transition Programme 'My Big School Adventure'.

Wirral Libraries team also commissioned FYT to produce and deliver training for their staff. Consequently, they successfully delivered a programme of sessions focusing on how nature and the outdoor environment can support children's learning and development.

FYT continue to play a leading role in Wirral's Early Help Alliance, undertaking key roles and responsibilities between various team members. The Alliance work brings in significant income, supporting the team to deliver a variety of services across Wirral, ensuring FYT is at the heart of Early Help services in Wirral.

The Healthy Incomes programme in Wirral, led by FYT and funded by the Lloyds Bank Foundation, continues to work in partnership with relevant organisations to improve access to disability benefits and reduce stigma associated with applying. This project was funded for two years from May 2024 and has successfully achieved a third year. Whilst this seems like a departure from FYT's normal work, it is a continuation of the Lottery Funded project which enabled the Alliance partners, led by FYT, to engage more effectively in coproduction methods.

The team continued to influence positive change by actively participating in a range of groups and networks that support the Home Learning Environment and wider Early Years agendas. This included involvement in the Fair Education Alliance Early Years Working Group, the Wirral Start for Life Steering Group, the Wirral Early Years Strategy Group, and the Parent, Infant and Early Years Relationships Clinical Network for Cheshire and Merseyside.

Where relevant, team members also attended sector conferences to share learning and strengthen knowledge, including the Voluntary Sector Northwest conference, the Fair Education Summit and Lloyds Foundation Collaborative Approach workshops.

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Main Achievements - continued

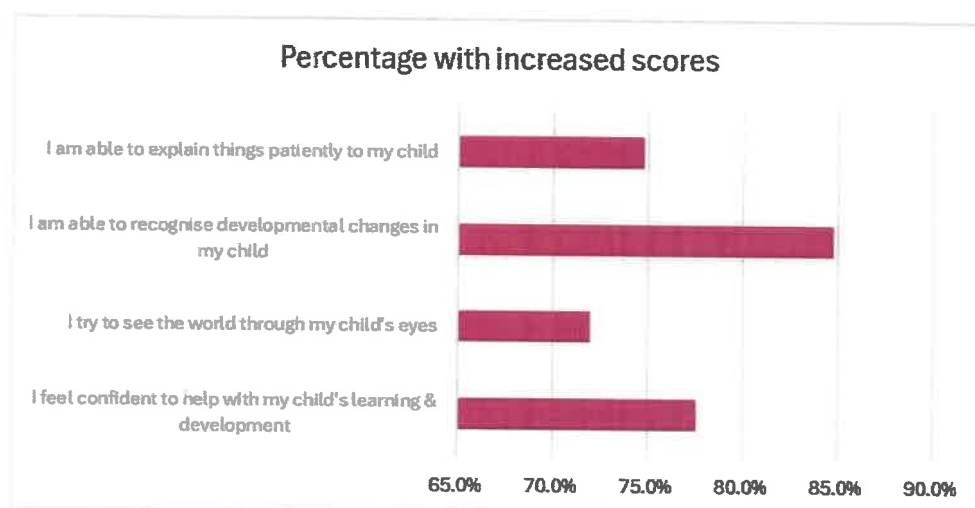
Achievements, Outcomes and Impact of work with families

During the year, eight schools successfully delivered the programme, but more were recruited and are gearing up to deliver at the start of 2026. The team continue to find creative ways to reduce the barriers that prevent schools from running groups continuously, and this year produced a manual to support this work.

Where schools deliver groups consistently, the impact is clear. Schools who deliver consistently report improved learning outcomes for children, secure relationships with families and better engagement from parents in their child's schooling.

One school shifted their EYFS Profile data from 62% to 68% of children achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD). Whilst this has clearly been the consequences of several strands of work, the Headteacher is in no doubt that the groups have played a significant role in achieving this.

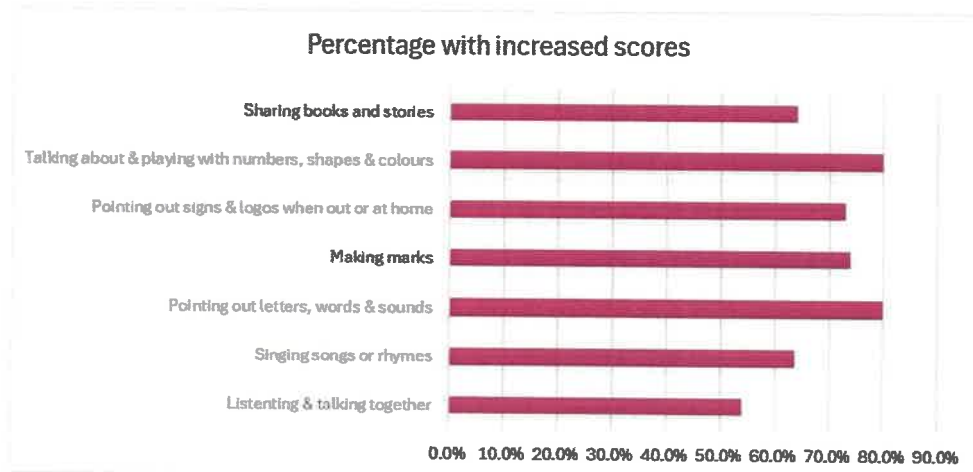
From our own comprehensive evaluation, we can demonstrate an improvement across several areas of both parental warmth and sensitivity (crucial in supporting HLE) and in parental behaviour towards their child. The first graph demonstrates that parents report improvements in recognising developmental changes in their child (84.8%), being able to see the world through their child's eyes (72%), able to explain things patiently (74.8%) and feeling confident to help with their child's learning and development (77.6%). These are all important in developing attachment and secure relationships at home, forming the basis on which children learn and develop.



Significantly, there were also increases in parents reporting doing more with their children on a regular basis. This is important to support children's learning and development across various areas of learning.

Our data showed clear increases across all aspects of early learning. For example, 'Talking about and playing with numbers, shapes and colours', and 'Pointing out letters and sounds' showed an 80% increase in parental understanding and activity since attending our groups. Although 'Listening and talking together' had a lower percentage increase (54%) we recognise that parents subsequently identified that they were already doing lots of this at home prior to the groups, but attendance helped them understand the value to their child. 'Pointing out signs and logos' (73%) and 'Making marks' (74%), are both significant aspects of literacy development that had not occurred to most parents.

Finally, 63.7% of parents reported 'Singing songs or rhymes' more and 64% reported 'sharing books and stories' more often, both vital for communication and language development.



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Main Achievements – continued

Parents also told us how important the groups were for their wellbeing, telling us they lowered their stress levels, normalised developmental milestones and helped both them and their children make connections in the community that would support them into the future.

Some feedback from parents and school staff:

"We were stuck for ideas of things to do but I remembered that (child) had fun at your group last week playing with the oats in the tray, so I looked in the cupboard and got out some pasta and rice and she played for ages! Tipping and pouring and filling cups and bowls up. And it didn't cost me a penny!" (Parent from Gautby Community group.)

"I joined the sessions maybe week 2 and loved seeing (child) in a different environment than at home. I didn't feel she was missing out particularly on areas of development or different activities to what they do at home, until I came to the groups. I could get involved and see (child) play in a totally different way. The sessions gave lots of ideas to incorporate into home learning and furthering her development." (Parent after Transition Group.)

"My child's confidence had grown so much. I am so grateful for the thought that went into focus based activities to interest him and the other children. After one particular session, he carried round his story sack that he created within Early Readers with for the whole week that followed, including hanging it on his scooter! I now regularly use the shopping list tasks/activities from the session about 'environmental print/logos'. And when we're on the bus now we tick off places and signs/logo we see. It's been lovely to create a fun focussed activity out of an everyday routine!" (Parent attending Early Readers.)

Victoria stated that she really enjoyed coming to the sessions with her daughter and that Mila (child) has really grown in confidence since coming along. English is not a first language in their house and Mila is bilingual in Russian and English. Victoria voiced that her daughter now has a real love of English books as well as Russian as read to her previously and she will often get all her books out, set her dolls up in a semi circle and read and read out loud to them all!

"This is the best baby group I've ever been to! The others don't ever seem long enough & you've gone round today being so chatty and friendly which is really lovely as I've found you don't always get that at others we've been to" Parent attending community group." (Parent at Baby Club event Sept 2025.)

"We have really enjoyed these sessions. It's been lovely seeing families return each week. We've tried different ways to support transition before, but nothing has worked quite like this. It's given us the chance to really talk with parents—especially those new to our school—and listen to their worries. Some have shared concerns about their child needing extra support in September, and it's been so valuable to have those conversations early. Honestly, we'd love to do this again next year—when can we book you in?" (Teacher from Holy Cross Primary School after Transition Groups.)

"We were worried about (child) starting school because they have been through a lot of change this year, but its been nice to see how happy they have been visiting school and how they have been excited to come back each week" (Grandparent attending transition group.)

"(Child) really struggles with separation anxiety and it was tricky on the first session. But by week 3 they have wondered off and had a little play without me. I know September will be hard after the summer holidays but I will be able to tell (child) about the fun they have had at these sessions and I'm sure it will help." (Parent attending transition group.)

Examples of feedback from parents attending sessions delivered by school staff:

"I am listening better to my son and engaging in his learning more. I can see how happy this makes him and his development has soared."

"I have learned skills to improve both of our listening and feel better equipped to help with his talking."

"We had a good relationship previously, but the sessions have strengthened this."

"Made us more aware of how to help him."

"These sessions have given me more confidence in supporting my child's learning. I have learnt new ways to teach letters and number through play."

Future Plans

The charity continues to work with families of 0–5-year-olds, supporting home learning experiences. We will:

- Continue to provide the school programme, including training, support and access to other relevant courses.
- Extend the offer of the school programme to all Wirral schools with early years provision, and to schools in other local authorities, capitalising on the governments focus on home learning in this age range.
- Continue to provide a range of quality Home Learning services in local communities, as per funding.
- Continue to build partnerships with other organisations, to enhance and extend our own work, and explore opportunities for further funding.
- Continue to provide opportunities for families to learn about ways they can support their child's learning and development.
- Further develop strategies to engage parents and carers to ensure programmes meet their needs in terms of methods of delivering messages on HLE.
- Develop a programme of professional development for early years professionals as an online offer.

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**The Foundation Years Trust
Trustees' Report (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025**

Future Plans - continued

- Explore methods of engaging private and independent early years settings, to develop a version of the programme they can participate in and support parents in providing home learning experiences.
- Grow and develop a programme to engage volunteers, ensuring secure recruitment, suitable training and purposeful work.
- Develop specific programmes to support areas of children's development, responding directly to local data from Early Years and Health visiting teams.

This necessitates ongoing fundraising activity to secure sufficient funds.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to these. Additionally, the Trust maintains a risk register which supports ongoing monitoring and discussion of these risks.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the Trust to maintain both restricted and unrestricted funds at a level which equates to at least three months of expenditure to ensure that the Trust can continue to operate should difficulties in receiving income occur in the short term. This will also ensure that the Trust is able to close-down at the end of its funding cycle, meeting all statutory staffing and operational costs. The level of expenditure for 2025 was £198,316, giving a reserves policy target of £49,579.

The Trust's reserves held at 2025 were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Unrestricted Reserves:		
Unrestricted Revenue Fund	26,664	23,833
Designated Revenue Fund	53,117	53,489
	<u>79,781</u>	<u>77,322</u>
Restricted Funds	<u>43,808</u>	<u>49,102</u>
	<u>123,589</u>	<u>126,424</u>

Unrestricted reserves are strategically managed to protect the charity's financial sustainability. The majority of the Trust's activities in the year to 31 December 2025 were funded by restricted grants and given that it is likely that the charity's costs will continue to be funded by restricted income in the immediate term, the Trustees consider that sufficient funds will be available to cover management and administration support costs for the foreseeable future.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee without share capital governed by its memorandum and articles of association.

Trustee Selection Methods

Membership of the Charity is open to any individual over the age of 18 years whom the Board decide to admit to membership. The Trust's Articles of Association state that all Trustees automatically become members. The business of the Trust is managed by the Board, which may consist of no fewer than three and no more than twelve elected members. An additional three members can be co-opted to the Board.

The Board delegates certain operational decisions to the Finance Sub-Group, the Strategy Sub-Group and the Fundraising Sub-Group, which consist of a number of Trustees and the CEO, along with relevant staff. These sub-groups meet throughout the year (virtually or face-to-face) and reports decisions to the following Board.

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, registered under the Companies Acts. The governing document of the charity is the Memorandum and Articles of Association establishing the company under company legislation.

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

By operation of law, all Trustees are Directors under the Companies Act 2006 and all Directors are Trustees under Charities legislation and have responsibilities, as such, under both company and charity legislation.

The Trustees are all individuals.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees

Dr Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe - Chairperson
Dr Dermot Coleman - Treasurer
Marcus Bell OBE
Kelleigh Hoy
Sandhya Singh

Charity Number

1149609

Company Number

08194371

Principal Address

c/o Seacombe Family Hub
St Pauls Road
Wallasey
Wirral
CH44 7AN

Independent Examiner

Matthew Brown CIPFA
Adding Value Consultancy Ltd
Studio 21, Bluecoat Chambers
School Lane
Liverpool
L1 3BX

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Small Company Rules

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:



Dr Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe
Chairperson
24th April 2026

**The Foundation Years Trust
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Foundation Years Trust
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company 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 accounts 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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts 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 accounts to be reached.



Matthew Brown CIPFA
24th April 2026
Studio 21, Bluecoat Chambers
School Lane
Liverpool
L1 3BX

The Foundation Years Trust
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

				2025	2024
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	71,112	44,346	115,458	123,274
Charitable activities:	4				
Other charitable activities		1,028	76,293	77,321	68,246
Investments	5	2,702	-	2,702	3,456
		<u>74,842</u>	<u>120,639</u>	<u>195,481</u>	<u>194,976</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities:	8				
Other charitable activities		(72,383)	(125,933)	(198,316)	(200,418)
NET EXPENDITURE		<u>2,459</u>	<u>(5,294)</u>	<u>(2,835)</u>	<u>(5,442)</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>2,459</u>	<u>(5,294)</u>	<u>(2,835)</u>	<u>(5,442)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
Total funds brought forward		77,322	49,102	126,424	131,866
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	17	<u>79,781</u>	<u>43,808</u>	<u>123,589</u>	<u>126,424</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

The Foundation Years Trust
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

				2024
	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
		£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:				
Donations and legacies	3	38,903	84,371	123,274
Charitable activities:	4			
Other charitable activities		360	67,886	68,246
Investments	5	3,456	-	3,456
		<u>42,719</u>	<u>152,257</u>	<u>194,976</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Charitable activities:	8			
Other charitable activities		(56,586)	(143,832)	(200,418)
NET EXPENDITURE		<u>(13,867)</u>	<u>8,425</u>	<u>(5,442)</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(13,867)</u>	<u>8,425</u>	<u>(5,442)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:				
Total funds brought forward		91,189	40,677	131,866
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	17	<u>77,322</u>	<u>49,102</u>	<u>126,424</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**The Foundation Years Trust
Balance Sheet
As At 31 December 2025**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	13	-	-	-	618
		-	-	-	618
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	14	993	-	993	951
Cash at bank and in hand		84,672	43,924	128,596	130,692
		85,665	43,924	129,589	131,643
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	15	(5,884)	(116)	(6,000)	(5,837)
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		79,781	43,808	123,589	125,806
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		79,781	43,808	123,589	126,424
NET ASSETS		79,781	43,808	123,589	126,424
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Funds				43,808	49,102
Unrestricted Funds				79,781	77,322
TOTAL FUNDS	17			123,589	126,424

For the year ending 31 December 2025 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit 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 trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

On behalf of the board



Dr Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe
Chairperson
24th April 2026

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

1. General Information

The Foundation Years Trust is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, registered number 08194371 and registered charity number 1149609. The registered office is Seacombe Family Hub, St. Paul's Road, Wallasey, Wirral, Merseyside, CH44 7AN.

2. Accounting Policies

2.1. Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) "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 2019)", Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

2.2. Going Concern Disclosure

There are no uncertainties about going concern.

2.3. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for a specific purpose.

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

There are no endowment funds.

2.4. Incoming Resources

Nature of income

Gross income represents the value, net of value added tax and discounts, of goods provided to customers and work carried out in respect of services provided to customers.

Categories of Income

Income is categorised as income from exchange transactions (contract income) and income from non-exchange transactions (gifts), investment income and other income.

Income from exchange transactions is received by the charity for goods or services supplied under contract or where entitlement is subject to fulfilling performance related conditions. The income the charity receives is approximately equal in value to the goods or services supplied by the charity to the purchaser.

Income from a non-exchange transaction is where the charity receives value from the donor without providing equal value in exchange, and includes donations of money, goods and services freely given without giving equal value in exchange.

Income recognition

Income, whether from exchange or non-exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

2.5. Resources Expended

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated.

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure (continued)

Liabilities arising from future funding commitments and constructive obligations, including performance related grants, where the timing or the amount of the future expenditure required to settle the obligation are uncertain, give rise to a provision in the accounts, which is reviewed at the accounting year end. The provision is increased to reflect any increases in liabilities, and is decreased by the utilisation of any provision within the period, and reversed if any provision is no longer required. These movements are charged or credited to the respective funds and activities to which the provision relates.

2.6. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of the fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment 33% straight line

2.7. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and are readily convertible to a known amount of cash with insignificant risk of change in value, and bank overdrafts.

2.8. Financial Instruments

Cash held by the charity is included at the amount actually held and counted at the year end. Bank balances, whether in credit or overdrawn, are shown at the amounts properly reconciled to the bank statements.

2.9. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax as all its income is charitable and applied for charitable purposes.

2.10. Volunteers

In accordance with the SORP, and in recognition of the difficulties in placing a monetary value on the contribution from volunteers, the contribution of volunteers is not included within the income of the charity.

However, the trustees value the significant contribution made to the activities of the charity by unpaid volunteers.

2.11. Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

2.12. Creditors and provisions

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.

3. Income from Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds
	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	112	-	112
Grants	71,000	44,346	115,346
	<u>71,112</u>	<u>44,346</u>	<u>115,458</u>

The Foundation Years Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Donations and gifts	378	-	378
Grants	38,525	84,371	122,896
	<u>38,903</u>	<u>84,371</u>	<u>123,274</u>

The following donations and legacies are included within the total income from donations and legacies above:

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Unrestricted funds £
Small donations individually less than £1000	112	378

The following grants are included within the total income from donations and legacies above:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	19,000	19,000
Northern Consortium	-	5,411	5,411
The Lewin Trust	-	30,000	30,000
Anne Duchess of Westminster's Fund	-	-	-
The Tudor Trust	-	-	-
John Armitage Charitable Trust	45,000	-	45,000
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	(13,250)	(13,250)
Partnerships North West Region Wirral Borough Council Family Hubs	-	-	-
Collective Futures	1,000	-	1,000
KPMG Foundation	25,000	-	25,000
PH Holt	-	3,000	3,000
	<u>71,000</u>	<u>44,161</u>	<u>115,161</u>

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	18,000	18,000
Northern Consortium	-	16,509	16,509
The Lewin Trust	-	15,000	15,000
Anne Duchess of Westminster's Fund	9,500	-	9,500
The Tudor Trust	5,000	-	5,000
John Armitage Charitable Trust	24,025	-	24,025
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	20,462	20,462
Partnerships North West Region Wirral Borough Council Family Hubs	-	14,400	14,400
Collective Futures	-	-	-
KPMG Foundation	-	-	-
PH Holt	-	-	-
	<u>38,525</u>	<u>84,371</u>	<u>122,896</u>

The above income is stated after removal of amounts received as lead partner on behalf of third parties as stated in note 22.

The Foundation Years Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

4. Income from Charitable Activities

	2025		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Other charitable activities	1,028	76,293	77,321
	2024		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Other charitable activities	360	67,886	68,246

Income above includes contractual payments from public bodies to fund charitable activities:

	2025	2024
	Restricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Wirral Borough Council	60,960	60,000
Wirral Borough Council Lifelong Learning	-	3,719
Wirral Borough Council Pathfinders	15,333	4,167
	76,293	67,886

5. Investment Income

	2025	2024
	Unrestricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £
Bank interest receivable	2,702	3,456

6. Government Grants

Government grants recognised in the accounts were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
The National Lottery Community Fund	(13,250)	20,462
Partnerships North West Region Wirral Borough Council Family Hubs	-	14,400
	(13,250)	34,862

The amounts above are stated after removal of funding received as lead partner on behalf of third parties as stated in note 22.

7. Net Income/(Expenditure)

The net expenditure is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets - owned	618	981

The Foundation Years Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

8. Analysis of Expenditure

	2025		
	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs (see note 9)	Total
	£	£	£
Other charitable activities	183,200	15,116	198,316
	2024		
	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs (see note 9)	Total
	£	£	£
Other charitable activities	183,000	17,418	200,418

9. Support Costs

	2025
	Other charitable activities
	£
Employee costs	2,570
General administration	9,530
Depreciation	618
Governance costs	2,398
	15,116
	2024
	Other charitable activities
	£
Employee costs	2,640
Premises expenses	2,820
General administration	8,885
Depreciation	981
Governance costs	2,092
	17,418

10. Independent Examiner's Remuneration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent examination of the financial statements	1,872	1,800

The Foundation Years Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

11. Staff Costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	156,049	158,782
Social security costs	6,371	8,260
Other pension costs	7,831	7,787
	<u>170,251</u>	<u>174,829</u>

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

12. Average Number of Employees

Average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Charitable Activities	5	3
Administration	2	2
Management:	1	1
	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

13. Tangible Assets

	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £
Cost	
As at 1 January 2025	6,392
As at 31 December 2025	<u>6,392</u>
Depreciation	
As at 1 January 2025	5,774
Provided during the period	618
As at 31 December 2025	<u>6,392</u>
Net Book Value	
As at 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>
As at 1 January 2025	<u>618</u>

14. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Due within one year		
Other debtors	<u>993</u>	<u>951</u>

The Foundation Years Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

15. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	114	125
Other creditors	1,228	1,031
Taxation and social security	2,866	2,881
Accruals and deferred income	1,792	1,800
	<u>6,000</u>	<u>5,837</u>

16. Pension Commitments

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund.

During the year the charge to the statement of financial activities in respect of defined contribution schemes was £7,831 (2024: £7,787).

At the balance sheet date contributions of £1,228 (2024: £1,031) were due to the fund and are included in creditors.

17. Movement in Funds

	As at 1 January 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	As at 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General:					
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	23,833	74,842	(72,383)	372	26,664
Designated:					
Designated Revenue Funds	53,489	-	-	(372)	53,117
Total unrestricted funds	<u>77,322</u>	<u>74,842</u>	<u>(72,383)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,781</u>
Restricted funds					
The National Lottery Community Fund Partnerships North Western Region	23,006	(13,065)	(9,941)	-	-
PH Holt	-	3,000	(23)	-	2,977
Wirral Borough Council Alliance	3,932	60,960	(56,502)	-	8,390
The Lewin Trust	6,131	30,000	(29,351)	-	6,780
Northern Consortium	7,105	5,411	(7,105)	-	5,411
The Lloyds Bank Foundation	8,928	19,000	(17,178)	-	10,750
Wirral Borough Council Pathfinders	-	15,333	(5,833)	-	9,500
Total restricted funds	<u>49,102</u>	<u>120,639</u>	<u>(125,933)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,808</u>
Total funds	<u>126,424</u>	<u>195,481</u>	<u>(198,316)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>123,589</u>

The Foundation Years Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

	As at 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General:					
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	16,330	42,719	(56,586)	21,370	23,833
Designated:					
Designated Revenue Funds	74,859	-	-	(21,370)	53,489
Total unrestricted funds	91,189	42,719	(56,586)	-	77,322
Restricted funds					
The National Lottery Community Fund Partnerships North Western Region	27,300	20,462	(24,756)	-	23,006
Steel Charitable Trust	1,034	-	(1,034)	-	-
PH Holt	4,725	-	(4,725)	-	-
Magenta Living	4,469	-	(4,469)	-	-
Wirral Lifelong Learning contract	1,420	3,719	(5,139)	-	-
Wirral Borough Council Alliance	1,729	60,000	(57,797)	-	3,932
The Lewin Trust	-	15,000	(8,869)	-	6,131
Northern Consortium	-	16,509	(9,404)	-	7,105
The Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	18,000	(9,072)	-	8,928
Wirral Borough Council family hubs	-	14,400	(14,400)	-	-
Wirral Borough Council Pathfinders	-	4,167	(4,167)	-	-
Total restricted funds	40,677	152,257	(143,832)	-	49,102
Total funds	131,866	194,976	(200,418)	-	126,424

Restricted Funds:

The National Lottery Community Fund Partnerships NW Region – final 3 months funding as lead partner for this co-production work, with Koala North-West, Ferries Families and Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury. Only grant paid to Foundation Years Trust is shown in income. Partner funds are shown in note 22.

WBC Pathfinders - Befriending – continuation of this restricted grant, paid to 6 partner organisations in the WBC Alliance. Balance of £5833.31 funded us to offer 'befriending' to parents/carers attending our groups each week.

WBC Pathfinders – Schools – consultancy work with schools around multi-agency safeguarding arrangements to test a greater strategic role for education providers.

WBC Alliance – continuation of this five-year funding for the Early Alliance project, with Koala NW as lead partner.

Lloyds Bank Foundation - continuation of this 2-year grant, to identify barriers for local residents claiming disability benefits, to develop a plan to ensure access to all. FYT leads this partnership to influence change in accessibility of disability benefits, with our partners Citizens Advice, Koala NW, Shaftesbury, Caritas, Ferries Families, Involve NW and Web Merseyside. Only grant paid to Foundation Years Trust is shown as income, Partner funds are shown in note 22.

PH Holt - New restricted grant of £3k to run Early Readers groups in the community.

Northern Consortium – New two-year restricted grant to deliver Little Explorers programmes to five schools over next two academic years (£5411 per year).

Lewin Trust – Continuation of this 3-year grant of £105k, to add the Parent Progression Pathway to our Early Explorers community programme, allowing parents, if they wish, to work towards a portfolio-based childcare qualification.

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The Foundation Years Trust
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

17. Movement in Funds - continued

Unrestricted Funds:

Unrestricted Revenue Funds - These funds are held for the meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities, and , subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use.

Designated Revenue Funds - These funds are also free from all restrictions on use. However, they have been designated to cover essential running or salary costs to ensure FYT can continue to meet its statutory obligations and plug any gaps in funding from other donors.

18. Transactions with Trustees

None of the trustees received any remuneration or any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity during the current or previous year.

During the year the expenses reimbursed to the trustees or paid directly to third parties were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Travel	214	55
Other Expenses	-	78
	<u>214</u>	<u>133</u>

Number of trustees reimbursed for expenses during the year was 1 (2024: 2)

19. Related Party Disclosures

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure, except for those disclosed in the Transactions with Trustees note.

20. Controlling Parties

The charity is under the control of its legal members.

Every member of the charity is obliged to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

21. Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company, in the event of a winding up, such an amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

22. Partner Funds

The following funds were received as lead partner on behalf of third parties and are not included in these accounts:

	£
Y3 Q4 Lottery Funding Jan-Mar 25:	
Koala NW	4,437.50
Ferries Family	4,437.50
Caritas	4,375.00
Lloyds Bank Foundation:	
Citizens Advice	25,000.00
Involve NW	2,000.00
Caritas	1,000.00
WEB Merseyside	1,000.00
Shaftesbury Youth Club	1,000.00
Koala NW	1,000.00
	<u>44,250.00</u>

The Foundation Years Trust
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:		
Donations and legacies		
Donations from individuals	112	378
Grants	115,346	88,034
Government Grants	-	34,862
	<u>115,458</u>	<u>123,274</u>
Charitable Activities:		
Other income	1,028	360
Contractual payments from public bodies	76,293	67,886
	<u>77,321</u>	<u>68,246</u>
Investments		
Bank interest receivable	2,702	3,456
	<u>2,702</u>	<u>3,456</u>
	<u>195,481</u>	<u>194,976</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:		
Charitable Activities:		
Wages and salaries	(156,049)	(158,782)
Employers NI	(6,371)	(8,260)
Employers pensions - defined contribution schemes	(7,831)	(7,787)
Programme delivery & shared costs	(12,949)	(8,171)
Recruitment costs	(134)	-
Staff training and welfare	(884)	(1,238)
Payroll fees and charges	(403)	(603)
Travel and subsistence expenses	(1,149)	(799)
Rent	-	(2,820)
IT, website and phones	(7,676)	(5,739)
Insurance	(1,034)	(981)
Stationery and printing	(223)	(1,209)
Publications and subscriptions	(506)	(867)
Bank charges	(60)	(60)
Volunteers expenses	(31)	(29)
Depreciation	(618)	(981)
Trustees' expenses	(214)	(133)
Independent examiner's fees	(1,872)	(1,800)
Other governance costs	(312)	(159)
	<u>(198,316)</u>	<u>(200,418)</u>
	<u>(198,316)</u>	<u>(200,418)</u>
NET EXPENDITURE	<u><u>(2,835)</u></u>	<u><u>(5,442)</u></u>