

Company No. 08402154
Charity No. 1152664

DanceSyndrome

Directors' Report and
Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2021

DanceSyndrome

Reports and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

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The Directors have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year. The period covered by this report is 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

Objectives and Activities

Dance Syndrome's objective is "to advance education in the art of dance for the public benefit and in particular, but not exclusively, for the learning disabled." The primary activities undertaken to meet this objective are: delivering public dance workshops in the community setting; teaching dancers to be able to deliver dance workshops; developing and performing dance pieces; and speaking at conferences about Dance Syndrome's work. All of these activities directly involve people with learning disabilities.

A major theme for the Charity is to improve people's health and wellbeing and collecting data to provide statistics on their ability to do this effectively is an important part of this theme. Dance Syndrome's community workshops are designed to be totally inclusive and accommodate all ages and physical capabilities whether they have learning disabilities or not. Each participant's development is monitored over time to demonstrate the improvements in mobility, coordination, and self-confidence that are achievable. The greater part of the Company's dance activities are led by people with learning disabilities, which most audiences and participants find truly inspirational.

Dance Syndrome's trustees and advisers to the Board, several of whom have learning disabilities, are focussed on delivering benefit to the learning disabled sector of the public. Benefits include access to inclusive dance sessions that improve health and social well-being as well as enhancing career pathways through confidence building and training. The Board of Trustees maintain an awareness of the risks involved in running the Charity and in particular of dealing with this vulnerable sector of the community. Policies and procedures have been implemented that mitigate these risks and the Company's performance is reviewed regularly (at least annually) against them. Where necessary, further mitigating actions are introduced to minimise the probability and/or impact of additional risks identified. An important role of the Trustees is to ensure sufficient funds are available to promote and carry out the artistic objectives of DanceSyndrome as laid out above.

Dance Syndrome's dance workshops are developed and delivered by pairs of dancers. One of the pair has received formal dance training (possibly up to degree level) and provides support to the Dance Leader who has a learning disability and has been developed by DanceSyndrome to lead the sessions. Through fortnightly development workshops, these pairs of dancers develop their skills in workshop delivery, choreography and performance.

Workshops are delivered in towns across Lancashire and Greater Manchester on a weekly basis. In order to be able to sustain these workshops in an increasing number of areas, both new funding and new leaders will be required. DanceSyndrome is training new dance artists and dance leaders. A partnership has been established with UCLan to help achieve this growth by providing a student stream of dancers and volunteers to help with monitoring and evaluation of performance.

The collection of dance artists and dance leaders that deliver Dance Syndrome's workshops form the Dance Company. This group meets regularly to enhance its dance skills and to develop performance dance pieces that it can showcase to demonstrate what can be achieved by people with learning disabilities given the right opportunities. Often these performances are commissioned in recognition of the quality of dance performance.

As part of the Company's advocacy work, individuals and groups from the Dance Company are invited to give presentations to various audiences about the work that they do and the benefits that it brings to the community. This can range from presenting to an international conference, presenting to students or talking to a local interest group.

Structure, Governance and Management

DanceSyndrome is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales on 14th February 2013. DanceSyndrome was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Charity, which is governed by its Articles of Association.

DanceSyndrome was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales February 2013.

Trustees are normally elected at the Company AGM for a period of three years. At the first AGM, held on 6th June 2014, all trustees were required to resign and were re-elected.

Trustees may be appointed by agreement of the existing trustees at other times but must resign at the next AGM when they may be re-elected for a three year term.

Vacancies are advertised based on identified needs for skills and or demographic mix and applicants are subject to DBS checks, references and interview by other trustees before recommendation for election. DanceSyndrome aims to have a significant proportion of trustees who represent the Company's prime beneficiary, the learning disabled community.

New trustees are provided with an information pack including the latest business plan and accounts, relevant policies and procedures, copies of the Memorandum of Association and directed to become familiar with either of the Charities Commission publications "The essential trustee: what you need to know(CC3)" or "Being a trustee (CC3-EASYREAD)".

The day to day management of the Company rests with the Managing Director, who is not a trustee but holds a salaried position and reports to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Achievements and Performance

Summary of Activities

I am happy to report that DanceSyndrome is in a much more secure position financially than it was at the end of the accounting period April 2020.

During 2020/2021 COVID-19 has forced everybody in the world to think differently. DanceSyndrome was no exception but because of its ethos and agility it was able to respond quickly to the situation presenting as the U.K. went into lockdown. Very quickly the first zoom session was trialled and deemed to be a success. The teething problems were ironed out and gradually zoom took over replacing face-to-face sessions with additional limited but vastly important opportunities over the summer months to work together outside in the park when the weather allow. By the end of the period DanceSyndrome was running 12 regular sessions every week and using a variety of charging structures in order that it was accessible to everyone.

The dance leaders have proved yet again that assumptions should never be made, and quickly became very proficient at using the technology in a way that might not have been anticipated. Dance artists too stepped up becoming efficient videographers and administrators overnight ensuring safeguarding practices were robust.

In addition the team maximised opportunities that came their way from webinars to conferences to contributing to or making videos including thanking the NHS for protecting everybody. There have also been articles in national magazines appearing most months due to interest in the DanceSyndrome model.

With the accepted norm now being Zoom or MS teams DanceSyndrome was able to re-engage with many organisations and people from the past and discover new ways of working effectively broadening its reach beyond the local geographical area.

True to form they have continued to turn heads and contribute to diverse agendas including education and business such as being invited to contribute to the round table of Small Business Britain. They have also developed new partnerships including with the NHS both regionally and nationally.

In spite of Covid19 DanceSyndrome and Founder Jen Blackwell continue to win awards creating opportunities for everyone who chooses and dancers with learning disabilities to aspire and thrive in ways never before countenanced. Working inclusively and alongside professionally trained dancers DanceSyndrome dancers with learning disabilities lead the way to better futures showcasing inclusion, equality, diversity and leadership from unexpected places.

Finances

This year's accounts show that the financial position of DanceSyndrome is satisfactory for the period reviewed.

During 2021 total income amounted to £190,052 (2020: £167,146). Of the income, a total of £166,622 (2020: £149,680) was received by way of voluntary income and grants. Income from charitable activities totalled £23,430 (2020: £17,466), this income relates to workshop income.

Expenditure totalled £123,916 compared to £200,165 in 2020. The main items of expenditure for the charity are staff costs of £48,050 (2020: £75,437) and freelance fees and expenses of £51,988 (2020: £89,393).

Net income, therefore, was £66,136 (2020: net expenditure £33,019) and results in a net increase in funds for the year of £66,136 (2020: decrease in funds £33,019).

To keep the extraordinary gains running and gaining yet more traction, we need to source funding for the future which will make DanceSyndrome more sustainable. Our goal is to be more socially entrepreneurial and less dependent on grants. This is where our focus lies in order to develop our sustainable future.

If you have an opportunity to meet Jen, Peter, Becky and the team you'll want to support them, maybe with funds (large or small) or maybe by spreading the word to others who may wish to donate, move in philanthropic circles or have the ability to open doors.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees and Directors

J Blackwell (Founder)

S Blackwell (Chair)

P Pamphlett

L Jenkinson

V McCorkell – resigned 9 March 2021

C Bowman

C Hatton – resigned 9 March 2021

J Nicholson – resigned 23 September 2021

C Robson

T Nel

L Howitt – appointed 20 September 2021

O Wrightson – appointed 20 September 2021

Managing Director

Julie Nicholson

Registered Address

Suite 2

Waterside

St James Court West

Accrington

BB5 1NA

Office Address

Suite 2
Waterside St James Court West
Accrington
BB5 1NA

Company registration number

8402154 (England and Wales)

Charity registration number

1152664 (England and Wales)

Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
WEST MALLING
Kent
ME19 4JQ 7

Independent examiner

S M Robinson
Champion
4 Nile Close
Nelson Court Business Centre
Riversway
Preston
Lancashire
PR2 2XU

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees (who are also directors of DanceSyndrome for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual 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, which 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:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
5. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

1. There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
2. The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the directors on 25th November 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



S E Blackwell - Director

Independent Examiners' Report for the year ended 31 March 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

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').

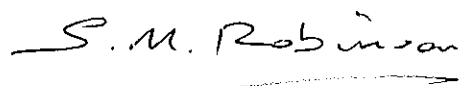
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). 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 that in any material respect:

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.

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.



S M Robinson ACA
CHAMPION
Chartered Accountants
Preston

Date: 25th November 2021

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Designated Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies		114610	-	52012	166622	149680
Charitable activities		23430	-	-	23430	17466
Total income	2	138040	-	52012	190052	167146
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities		67677	-	52639	120316	196967
Other		3600	-	-	3600	3198
Total expenditure	3	71277	-	52639	123916	200165
Net income / (expenditure)		66763	-	(627)	66136	(33019)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		66763	-	(627)	66136	(33019)
Reconciliation of funds						
Fund balance brought forward at 1 April 2020		36313	-	12889	49202	82221
Balance carried forward at 31 March 2021		103076	-	12262	115338	49202

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021	2020
		£	£
Current assets			
Debtors	4	20112	1754
Cash at bank and in hand		103827	55679
		<u>123939</u>	<u>57433</u>
Current liabilities			
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(8601)	(8231)
		<u></u>	<u></u>
Net current assets		<u>115338</u>	<u>49202</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>115338</u>	<u>49202</u>
Represented by			
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	6	103076	36313
Designated fund		-	-
		<u>103076</u>	<u>36313</u>
Restricted funds	6	<u>12262</u>	<u>12889</u>
Total funds		<u>115338</u>	<u>49202</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Director's responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 25th November 2021.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees.



S E Blackwell - Director

Company number: 08402154

Charity number: 1152664

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies*Basis of Accounting*

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of land and buildings and investments.

Incoming Resources

Income from charitable activities is accounted for in the period in which the service is provided.

Donations, Legacies and Other Voluntary Income are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities as they are received due to the uncertainty of the timing of the receipt.

Allocation of Expenditure

Allocation of expenditure to direct charitable costs and governance costs have been made on a basis consistent with the nature of the expenditure giving consideration to the application, directly or otherwise, to external charitable causes.

Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is exempt from taxation under the Income & Corporation Taxes Act.

Value Added Tax

Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2 Total incoming resources

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Voluntary Income					
Grants received	72139	-	52012	124151	115187
Gift aid recovered	3755	-	-	3755	-
Donations	32971	-	-	32971	34493
Coronavirus job retention scheme grant	5745	-	-	5745	-
	<u>114610</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52012</u>	<u>166622</u>	<u>149680</u>

2 Total income (continued)

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Charitable activities					
Workshop income	23430	-	-	23430	17466
	<u>23430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23430</u>	<u>17466</u>

3 Total expenditure

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Charitable activities					
Website and internet	3786	-	-	3786	313
Staff costs	11869	-	36181	48050	75437
Employers pensions	1539	-	-	1539	2162
Rent and venue hire	742	-	-	742	10750
Freelance fees and expenses	38678	-	13310	51988	89393
Insurance	345	-	-	345	362
Stationary and office supplies	4703	-	3148	7851	11137
Sundry expenses	6015	-	-	6015	7413
	<u>67677</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52639</u>	<u>120316</u>	<u>196967</u>
Other					
Accountancy fees	3600	-	-	3600	3198
	<u>3600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3600</u>	<u>3198</u>

Staff costs include the following:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	48050	72057
Social security costs	-	3380
	<u>48050</u>	<u>75437</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 p.a.

None of the trustees received any emoluments during the year (2020: £Nil).

None of the trustees received reimbursement for any expenses in the year (2020: £Nil).

4 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade Debtors	9234	770
Prepayments and accrued income	10627	984
Other debtors	251	-
	<u>20112</u>	<u>1754</u>

5 Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals & Trade creditors	8347	5892
Social security	-	1919
Pension	254	420
	<u>8601</u>	<u>8231</u>

6 Analysis of funds

	Opening balance	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers in the year	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	
Unrestricted fund					
General fund	36313	138040	(71277)	-	103076
	<u>36313</u>	<u>138040</u>	<u>(71277)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103076</u>
Restricted fund					
Big Lottery	12889	52012	(52639)	-	12262
	<u>12889</u>	<u>52012</u>	<u>(52639)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12262</u>