

**DANCESYNDROME**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Charity registration number 1152664

Company registration number 08402154 (England and Wales)

# DANCESYNDROME

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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**Trustees**

Ms J S Blackwell  
Ms S E Blackwell  
Ms C Bowman  
Ms L Jenkinson  
Mr P Pamphlett  
Mr C M Robson  
Ms N Britton  
Ms C Young  
Ms L Howitt

**Charity number**

1152664

**Company number**

08402154

**Registered office**

c/o Pathways Associates  
Suite 2 - Waterside  
St James Court West  
Accrington  
Lancashire  
BB5 1NA

**Independent examiner**

Champion TLL Limited  
7-9 Station Road  
Hesketh Bank  
Preston  
Lancashire  
PR4 6SN

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# DANCESYNDROME

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# **DANCESYNDROME**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006 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 2019).

#### **Objectives and activities**

DanceSyndrome'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 co-deliver dance workshops; developing and performing dance pieces; and speaking at conferences about DanceSyndrome'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. DanceSyndrome'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 improvements in mobility, coordination, and self-confidence 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.

DanceSyndrome's Trustees and advisers to the Board, including some who 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.

DanceSyndrome'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 weekly development workshops, these pairs of dancers develop their skills in workshop delivery, choreography, and performance.

Workshops are delivered in towns across Lancashire 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 are required. DanceSyndrome is growing its pool of dance artists and dance leaders.

The collection of dance artists and dance leaders that deliver Dance Syndrome's workshops form the Dance Company. This group meets weekly 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 both dancing and presenting to an international conference, presenting to students, or talking to a local interest group.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

# DANCESYNDROME

## TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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### Achievements and performance

With our new Managing Director joining the organisation in September 2021 (whilst Covid-19 was still very challenging for businesses) it is good to report that DanceSyndrome has continued to grow and thrive over the last year under her leadership. The benefits of its ethos and unique model of true co-delivery continued to be recognised not just in dance but in the health, education, and social care sectors particularly as many organisations look at how they develop inclusion going forward.

A new strategy developed has been implemented. The team is realigned to build a more strategic operational team going forward with a major focus on ensuring there is a diverse income generation plan. The Managing Director is now supported by a full time Artistic Director and part time Comms Manager, Project Co-ordinator, Community Outreach Manager, Fundraising Manager, and a Mentor Manager. Our Dance Artists remain as freelance.

The year started with the introduction of the new Day of Dance – A weekly session for the company of dancers incorporating Ballet, Contemporary and dance development. The number of community workshops increased during the year alongside continuing to offer Zoom workshops in Street, Jazz and Everybody Dance.

It is particularly pleasing to report that our partnerships continue to grow with Merseyside Dance Initiative, North Lancashire Down Syndrome Association and Community Rail being added to our existing partnerships with MacIntyre, Down Syndrome Association, Lancashire & South Cumbria Foundation Trust, and NHS England. We completed a series of videos for NHS England, did five Train Station Takeovers (Manchester Oxford Road, Manchester Victoria, Blackpool North, Manchester Airport and Manchester Piccadilly). We were featured on TV on 4 occasions during the year – Steph's Packed Lunch on Channel 4 (Twice) – Once with a film presented by professional dancer, Giovanni Pernice and once 'live' on World Down Syndrome Awareness Day; Vick Hope's Breakfast Show, and on My Life at Christmas with Shirley Ballas (presented by Sally Phillips).

We completed the first Dance by Example Level 2 course, delivered two Level 1 courses (in house and with Buzz Hub) and through our partnership with Community Rail we piloted a Youth Company project. In addition Jen & Sue Blackwell were the Charity Champions winners at the Best Business Women Awards which took place in London in September 2022. In February 2023, we performed at the Lowry, Salford Quays to celebrate 10 years of DanceSyndrome becoming a charity.

The charity was successful in receiving project funding from the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund which started on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022. It also had a successful fundraising year including receiving a significant private donation, funds from friends who undertook the Scotland 500 bike ride and funds from the Lowry performance. This means we go into 23/24 with over £60,000 in grants to support its work and an increase in our net funds. In addition our Arts Council England application has been successful, and we are to be recognised in the new ACE National Portfolio 2023 – 2026. (Starting 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023).

### Financial review

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

During 2023 total income amounted to £312,948 (2022: £150,719). Of the income, a total of £244,870 (2022: £76,768) was received by way of voluntary income and grants. Income from charitable activities totalled £67,868 (2022: £73,951), this income relates to workshop income. There was also further grants totalling £63,517 (2022: £39,966) which were received in 2023 but relate to projects after the year end and have therefore being deferred. These grants are not included within the income of the year of £312,948.

Expenditure totalled £250,014 compared to £206,224 in 2022. The main items of expenditure for the charity are staff costs of £148,004 (2022: £91,096) and freelance fees and expenses of £74,790 (2022: £84,038).

Net income, therefore, was £62,934 (2022: net expenditure £55,505) and results in a net increase in funds for the year of £62,934 (2022: decrease in funds £55,505).

Our goal is to ensure we have a diverse income stream through growing our earned income and donations alongside strategically securing significant long term grant funding to ensure our sustainability.

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.

# DANCESYNDROME

## TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

### Structure, governance and management

The charity is a 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.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Ms J S Blackwell  
Ms S E Blackwell  
Ms C Bowman  
Ms L Jenkinson  
Mr P Pamphlett  
Mr C M Robson  
Ms N Britton  
Ms C Young  
Ms L Howitt  
Ms O M Wrightson

(Resigned 7 November 2022)

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.

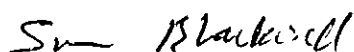
Trustees may be appointed by agreement of the existing trustees at other times but must resign at the next AGM when they may be re-elected for a three year term.

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.

The trustees report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Ms S E Blackwell  
Trustee

21 June 2023

# DANCESYNDROME

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF DANCESYNDROME

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of DanceSyndrome (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (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 the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

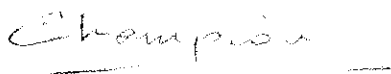
### Independent examiner's statement

Since 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 , which is one of the listed bodies.

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 charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements 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 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.



**Champion TLL Limited**

7-9 Station Road  
Hesketh Bank  
Preston  
Lancashire  
PR4 6SN

Dated: 21 June 2023

# DANCESYNDROME

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	244,870	76,768	-	76,768
Charitable activities	4	67,868	73,951	-	73,951
Investments	5	210	-	-	-
<b>Total income</b>		<b>312,948</b>	<b>150,719</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150,719</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	6	248,646	191,149	12,262	203,411
Other	9	1,368	2,813	-	2,813
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>250,014</b>	<b>193,962</b>	<b>12,262</b>	<b>206,224</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds</b>		<b>62,934</b>	<b>(43,243)</b>	<b>(12,262)</b>	<b>(55,505)</b>
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		59,833	103,076	12,262	115,338
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2023</b>		<b>122,767</b>	<b>59,833</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>59,833</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.



# DANCESYNDROME

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	11	12,323		856	
Cash at bank and in hand		191,890		110,877	
		<u>204,213</u>		<u>111,733</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	12	(81,446)		(51,900)	
Net current assets			<u>122,767</u>		<u>59,833</u>
<b>Income funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds			<u>122,767</u>		<u>59,833</u>
			<u>122,767</u>		<u>59,833</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21 June 2023

Ms S E Blackwell  
Trustee



Company registration number 08402154

# DANCESYNDROME

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

DanceSyndrome is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is c/o Pathways Associates, Suite 2 - Waterside, St James Court West, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 1NA.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

# DANCESYNDROME

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

#### 1.6 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### 1.7 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 1.8 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

### 3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations and gifts	79,492	37,820
Grants receivable	165,378	38,948
	<u>244,870</u>	<u>76,768</u>

# DANCESYNDROME

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 4 Charitable activities

	Workshops 2023 £	Workshops 2022 £
Sales within charitable activities	67,868	73,951

### 5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds  2023 £	Total  2022 £
Interest receivable	210	-

### 6 Charitable activities

	Workshops 2023 £	Workshops 2022 £
Staff costs	148,004	91,096
Website and internet	5,155	4,598
Rent and venue hire	7,255	8,903
Freelance fees and expenses	74,790	84,038
Insurance	381	362
Stationery and office supplies	3,962	8,434
Sundry expenses	9,099	5,980
	248,646	203,411
	248,646	203,411
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	248,646	191,149
Restricted funds	-	12,262

### 7 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

# DANCESYNDROME

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
	4	4
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
<b>Employment costs</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	132,647	86,050
Other pension costs	15,357	5,046
	<u>148,004</u>	<u>91,096</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

### 9 Other

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Accountancy fees	1,368	2,813
	<u>1,368</u>	<u>2,813</u>

### 10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

### 11 Debtors

	2023	2022
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	11,373	357
Prepayments and accrued income	950	499
	<u>12,323</u>	<u>856</u>

## DANCESYNDROME

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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**12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other taxation and social security	3,452	3,158
Trade creditors	11,928	6,671
Other creditors	1,685	835
Accruals and deferred income	64,381	41,236
	<u>81,446</u>	<u>51,900</u>

**13 Related party transactions**

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).