

DANCESYNDROME

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charity registration number 1152664

Company registration number 08402154 (England and Wales)

DANCESYNDROME

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Ms J S Blackwell Ms S E Blackwell Ms C Bowman Ms L Jenkinson Mr P Pamphlett Ms C Young Ms L Howitt Mr M Blackwell Mr J Waterall	(Appointed 28 September 2023) (Appointed 14 March 2024)
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	

DANCESYNDROME

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DANCESYNDROME

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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

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 these activities directly involve people with learning disabilities.

A major theme for the charity is to improve people's health and wellbeing and raise the profile of people with a learning disability in society. 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

Governance

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. The Board of Trustees maintain an awareness of the risks involved in running the charity and specifically 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 objectives of DanceSyndrome as laid out above.

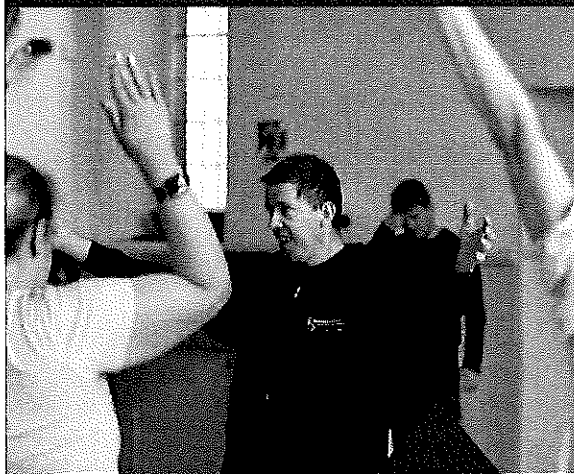
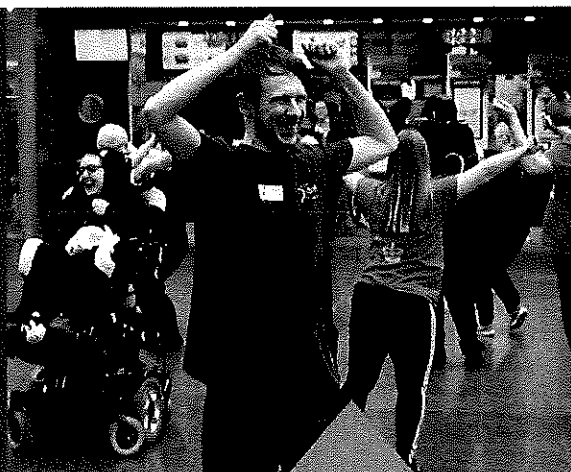
2023-24: DanceSyndrome - Celebrating 10 years

2023 was a significant year for DanceSyndrome as we marked our tenth year as a Charity.

Our impact 2023-24

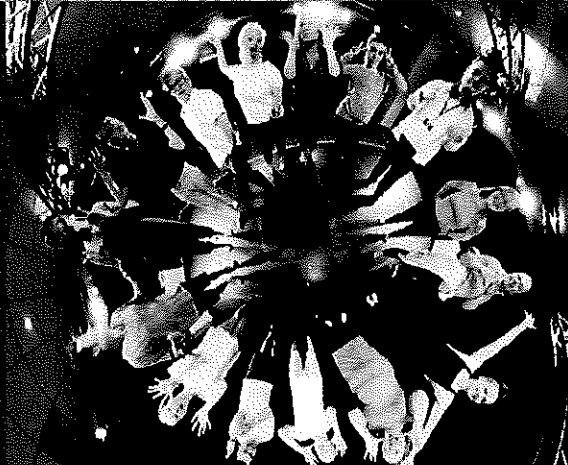


- Over 5,500 people engaged through our community outreach, events, training and performances
- Over 3,000 participants with learning disabilities engage in-person with our dance activity



- 214 participants with learning disabilities engage in on-line / remote dance workshops
- 500 people receive Inclusion training
- 20 people with learning disabilities receive accredited dance leadership training

- 20 adults with learning disabilities regularly volunteer as Dance Leaders, co-delivering workshops
- 20 adults with learning disabilities regularly perform with our 'DS Collective'
- 10 young people with learning disabilities regularly perform with our DS Youth Collective



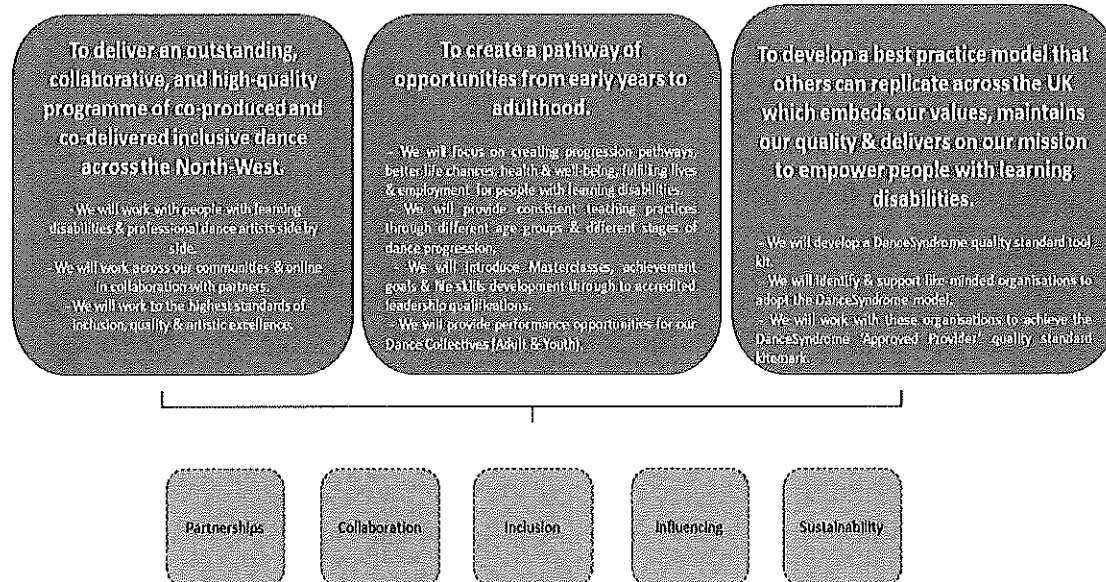
DANCESYNDROME

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Our strategy

DanceSyndrome Vision 2030



We deliver our work in three different strands.



Community Dance:

- Weekly 'Everybody Dance' Classes (In person & on Zoom)
- Weekly 'Technique' Classes (In person & on Zoom)
- Commissioned Classes & Workshops
- Outreach & Leadership in Action Events
- "Dance by Example" Leadership Training
- 'Everybody Dance' Social Replication Model/ DanceSyndrome Kitemark (In Development)



Artistic Development:

- Dance Leader Professional Development Programme (Progression Pathways, Tailored Dance Development, Masterclasses & Life Skills)
- DS Collective Performance Company
- DS Youth Collective (Company of Youth Dancers)
- Dance Sector Partnerships (In Development)
- Dance Accreditations (In Development)



Training & Consultancy:

- "Breaking Down Barriers" Workshop (for dancers in training/education, community dance artists, dance teachers in traditional dance settings)
- "Inclusion in Action" Workshop (for Businesses, Universities, Colleges & Schools)
- DanceSyndrome Consultancy (In Development)

DANCESYNDROME

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

We have seen significant growth in all aspects of our work over the last 10 years and below is a look back at some of the highlights and our current work: -

Growth of the organisation

In 2013, we had just 14 volunteer dancers (with and without disabilities) and our operations were run on a freelance basis. We now have an operational team of 6 employees led by our Managing Director, Julie Nicholson. Our Artistic Director, Sophie Tickle oversees the Dance Team of 7 Freelance Dance Artists and 20 Volunteer Dance Leaders. Our DS Collective performance company has 20 regular performers, and we have a newly established DS Youth Collective performance company of 10 young people aged between 14 and 25 years old.

Community Dance

2014 saw the introduction of two key elements of our current provision - inclusive community dance workshops and 'Dance by Example' Leadership Training.

These early inclusive community dance workshops formed the basis for the "Everybody Dance" methodology which is currently used to co-deliver our community dance workshops and the online workshops as part of the organisation's response to COVID-19 lockdowns. In 2023-24 we delivered 224 weekly Everybody Dance community dance sessions, 90 online Everybody Dance sessions and 174 dance technique sessions (Street, Ballet, Theatre Jazz and Contemporary dance styles).

Our 'Dance by Example' Leadership Training was designed and developed in-house to encourage co-production between disabled and non-disabled leaders. Aimed at people with learning disabilities, or people wanting to work in a supporting role, the training enables participants to gain the skills and confidence needed to co-deliver dance workshops and take the role of Dance Leader. This first course was a real success.



Dance By Example had to take a break during the pandemic and re-started again in October 2021 with a Level 2 course (completed in July 2022) followed by a Level 1 course delivered in April 2022 (completed in May 2022). Dance By Example is now accredited at Level 1 and Level 2 through the Leadership Skills Foundation, and we have trained over 120 Dance Leaders to date, which we are very proud of!

In 2017, a Street Dance group was established, and this was quickly followed by Ballet, Contemporary and Jazz technique sessions. These workshops were adapted to online delivery during the pandemic and in 2023-24 they formed a key part of our weekly Day of Dance and a core part of our weekly timetable. We have started developing an inclusive, accredited 'Bronze' level syllabus for Ballet, and over time we are planning to create further syllabi ensuring that any formal assessment is fully inclusive.

We are also developing inclusive resources Easy Read and Plain English variations and as part of this process we have been working with a Dance Makaton Expert to deliver Makaton specific to dance workshops.

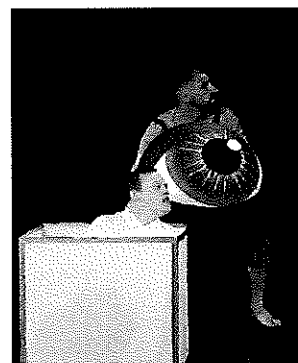
DANCESYNDROME

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Artistic Development and Performance

Back in 2013, performance work was a key focus. The first year got off to an impressive start when we took part in Miranda's Mad March for Comic Relief. The opportunity to perform on prime-time TV was unprecedented for the performance team and they were thrilled to be included in such a special event. Performance work continues to be a priority, and, in 2023, our DS Collective performance team travelled to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for the 3rd time. They performed "SENse" a co-produced piece dealing with the idea that people with learning disabilities don't always feel seen and heard in society using their own feelings and ideas to create the narrative of the piece. A North-West tour of the piece is planned for 2024 and this started with a further performance at EXPRESS '24 the Community Dance Showcase in March 2024. This provided a valuable opportunity for each Community workshop group to perform too, many for the first time on stage.



Training and Consultancy

Central to our work is the belief that there's no such thing as "one size fits all". It's completely inspired by the individual dancers with their disabilities, their abilities, passions and interests all incorporated into the delivery. It became clear that this is a concept that wasn't traditionally taught in dance training, so in 2016 we developed "Inclusive Approaches Dance Artist Training" for Dance Artists who would like to become more inclusive in their delivery and develop their co-production skills.

In 2023, we modified the course content to create a refreshed and updated training course "Breaking Down Barriers". It also became clear that an adapted version of the course was also needed for delivery to people in non-dance professions, so "Inclusion in Action" was developed. This is delivered to people in schools, universities and businesses who want to learn about the challenges that people with learning disabilities may face and how they can become more inclusive through their own job roles. In 2023-24 we have delivered this with Health and Social Care students at the Salford University and with 70 participants at the NHS Association of Chartered Physiotherapists for People with Learning Disabilities Annual Learning Conference.

Early years to adulthood pathway

During the pandemic we developed two weekly online sessions for infants and primary school aged children. These sessions inspired our current strategic pillar to create a full pathway of activities from early years to adults.



A project called Making Connections was delivered in 2022-23 in partnership with Community Rail Lancashire, aimed at using dance to teach transferrable life skills to young people in Blackburn and surrounding areas so that they could more confidently use the rail network. This project was very successful, and this informed the development of a Children and Young People Collective, as part of our Arts Council England NPO project plan. Their first performances together took place at the U.Dance regional festival and at our own EXPRESS '24 Community Dance Showcase, both in March 2024.

We launched a further project in September 2023, funded by Sport England, to enable us to further develop our Children and Young People programme by delivering outreach activities in schools.

Replicable model of best practice

In 2017, we gained funding from the 'National Lottery' Reaching Communities fund, to work with partners in other areas of the UK, testing a social replication model. This three-year project was coming to the evaluation stage when the pandemic started forcing this strand of work to be paused. It resumed in late 2021 when the organisation first explored a social franchise model which a few months later became the DanceSyndrome Kitemark. At the end of our tenth year, we have signed our first contract with a partner who wants to become a DanceSyndrome Kitemark Approved Provider; Buzz Hub in St Helens.

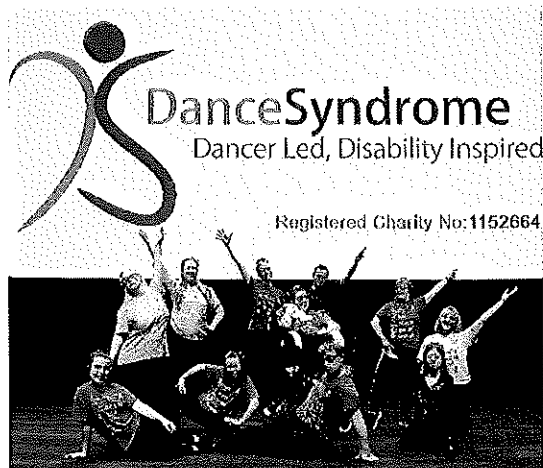
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TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Partnerships & Collaboration

Partnership working has underpinned our successes and key projects and in the early days laid important foundations for the future. Back in 2013, a lot of work was going on behind the scenes to find positive partnerships that would enable us to grow. In 2023, partnership working is fundamental to how we work and to our success. We work with community partners such as The Bridge Centre, Thrive CIC, SENSE, Caritas, North Lancashire Down's Syndrome Group and many others to deliver Everybody Dance workshops in community settings. We work with event organisers, business networks, schools, universities and healthcare providers to deliver community outreach activities and training. In 2023, these partnerships have also included NHS England, Lancashire and South Cumbria Foundation Trust (LSCFT), NHS Association of Chartered Physiotherapists, the University of Salford, University of Central Lancashire, Sir Tom Finney School, Progress Housing, Lancashire Careers Hub, European Society of Paediatric Otorhinolaryngology (ESPO), Include Summit, Lancashire Encounters, EMAP Publishing, and many more. We also partner with major national organisations including Mencap, Down's Syndrome Association and Learning Disability England to challenge societal perceptions of learning disability, through dance delivery but also through communications such as social media campaigning too.



Inclusion

Inclusion is at the heart of everything we do. Whilst the charity has always been inspired and led by people with disabilities, we always believe there is more opportunity for greater inclusion and always strive to do better ourselves and encourage others to do better too.

In 2017, the "Select Team" was formed to provide a valuable opportunity for Dance Leaders, their families and support to share with the staff and trustees what they wanted to see happen at DanceSyndrome. The Select Team has now become "Dance Leader Meetings" and are an important opportunity for every individual to have their voice heard on a regular basis, and in a structured way. We have created a Mentor Manager role to further support this group. This role involves working with Dance Leaders to create CVs, showreels and to consider performance work, choreography and teaching skills. In 2023-24 our team of Dance Leaders have been developing individual plans for personal and professional development.

A "Jobs, Volunteering and Opportunities" document is currently being developed to share with the group. A monthly "Events and Opportunities Newsletter" is being sent out giving a range of shows, training and call outs for the dancers to get involved outside of DanceSyndrome. This is a great way for the dancers to gain more experience, develop as artists and network!

Communications

Our social media channels were first setup in 2014 with YouTube, Twitter and Facebook. Daily social media posting became part of our approach in 2016 and in 2020 a working group was formed to take a more strategic and analytic approach to social media campaigning.

In 2023, a new role of Communications Manager was created as part of our ongoing commitment to excellent, strategic communications. We have also been working hard to create a much larger proportion of our direct communications in Easy Read format, or at least with an accompanying Easy Read version. This is important as part of our commitment to inclusion.

A key objective is to challenge perceptions about what people with learning disabilities can contribute to society, and social media engagement with key national campaigns plays a significant role in sharing these messages. In 2023-24 this included Learning Disability Awareness Week with a theme of "Busting myths about Learning Disability," for Inclusion Week we shared messages about the importance of inclusion in all aspects of society. For Down's Syndrome Awareness Week, we engaged with the National theme of "End the Stereotypes".

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TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Recognition

Being nominated and winning awards has been key to our mission to challenge perceptions of disability and is very empowering for our Dance Leaders to be recognised in this way and included in the high-profile events.

Historically, DanceSyndrome's first ever award came in September 2015 when Founder Jen Blackwell was recognised as Inspirational Woman of the Year at the Enterprise Vision Awards. Key awards for the charity since then have included the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services 2019, dance industry recognition with a People's Choice Award winner at the One Dance UK Awards 2021, Learning Disability sector recognition with The Sporting Chance Award (2016) and People's Choice Award (2019) at the National Learning Disabilities and Autism Awards and several local business awards. These have included the Not-For-Profit



Award at the Red Rose Awards 2017 and Charity of the Year award at the E3 North-West Business Awards 2018. Founder Jen Blackwell has also received significant individual recognition, most recently with a British Empire Medal for Services to Disabled People in the first King's Birthday Honours in June 2023, and with a Points of Light Award from the Prime Minister in 2018. Additionally, Jen has been listed in three separate years on the annual Shaw Trust Disability Power List (2018-2020), inclusion on the Lucozade Mover's List published in The Independent (2019), and winning the Charity Champion Award at the Best Businesswomen Awards (2022), amongst several others. Jen herself testifies to the value of award recognition when she says "Winning awards shows that people with learning disabilities can do amazing things with their lives if given a chance. I do have Down's syndrome but that doesn't define me. I believe that everybody can dance and do things they love no matter how other people define us".

Environmental Responsibility

As part of our Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation project, we have embarked on a strategic Environmental Responsibility journey. We have formed a working group of 5 team members who met on a quarterly basis throughout 2023-24 to discuss important learning and how we can successfully embed sustainable practices into our everyday work.

Our key learning is that Environmental Responsibility only works through "lived" policies that are put into practice operationally on a day-to-day basis, so we have started to consider Environmental Responsibility when we are making day to day decisions.

Sustainability

Sustainable diversified funding is fundamental to the success of all charities.

Funding became key in 2015. Whilst short term funding had previously been secured for creating administrative roles and to subsidise workshops, DanceSyndrome needed more substantial funding to meet the growing demand we were seeing. NatWest Skills and Opportunities Fund provided funding to subsidise the Dance by Example course, and we were successful in securing a small project grant from Arts Council England to support a performance called "Orbit". This was performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

In 2016, Spirit of 2012, we were awarded our first multi-year grant over 3 years. This enabled us to co-deliver 5 weekly community dance workshops, an annual Dance by Example training course and regular community outreach work, which would continue to challenge perceptions of people with disabilities and empower them to become more involved in their local communities.

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TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

In 2020, when the pandemic hit the world, the team had to quickly adapt to co-delivering online dance sessions and workshops via YouTube initially followed by Zoom. We wanted to limit the impact of isolation on participants and continue to make them a part of our "dancing family". Fortunately, funding bodies were incredibly supportive during the pandemic, and we were able to generate enough financial support to survive



these very challenging times. The team were able to offer an extensive programme of dance reaching over 600 people from around the world, including Europe, the USA and South Africa! As a result, several online dance sessions continue to be delivered four years after the initial lockdowns. These Everybody Dance sessions (online and in the community), our Dance by Example training and community outreach activities are now subsidised by a current 3-year grant from the National Lottery Community Fund.

Our grant funding was taken to the next level in 2023-24 as we were chosen as an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) for 2023-26 starting in April 2023.

Over the last few years, we have seen a steady growth in our earned income as demand for the services we offer increases. This has become an important part of our overall funding and sustainability strategy.

We have come a long way over the last 10 years constantly striving to improve the lives of people with a learning disability. We have set ourselves a progressive and demanding strategy and we look forward to the next 10 years as we continue to grow and develop.

Financial review

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

During 2024 total income amounted to £366,137 (2023: £312,948). Of the income, a total of £296,579 (2023: £244,870) was received by way of voluntary income and grants. Income from charitable activities totalled £67,989 (2023: £68,078), this income relates to workshop income. There was also further grants totalling £67,506 (2023: £63,517) which were received in 2024 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 £366,137.

Expenditure totalled £370,890 compared to £250,014 in 2023. The main items of expenditure for the charity are staff costs of £182,401 (2023: £148,004) and freelance fees and expenses of £105,263 (2023: £74,790).

Net expenditure, therefore, was £4,753 (2023: net income £62,934) and results in a net decrease in funds for the year of £4,753 (2023: increase in funds £62,934).

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.

Reserves policy

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.

DANCESYNDROME

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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	(Resigned 31 August 2023)
Ms N Britton	(Resigned 31 January 2024)
Ms C Young	
Ms L Howitt	
Mr M Blackwell	(Resigned 28 September 2023)
Mr J Waterall	(Appointed 14 March 2024)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

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.



Mr M Blackwell
Trustee

10 December 2024

DANCESYNDROME

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF DANCESYNDROME

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of DanceSyndrome (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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 the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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

Champion TLL Limited

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

Dated: 10 December 2024

DANCESYNDROME

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	163,016	133,563	296,579	244,870
Charitable activities	4	67,989	-	67,989	67,868
Investments	5	1,569	-	1,569	210
Total income		<u>232,574</u>	<u>133,563</u>	<u>366,137</u>	<u>312,948</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	235,258	133,563	368,821	248,646
Other expenditure	9	2,069	-	2,069	1,368
Total expenditure		<u>237,327</u>	<u>133,563</u>	<u>370,890</u>	<u>250,014</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		(4,753)	-	(4,753)	62,934
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		<u>122,767</u>	-	<u>122,767</u>	<u>59,833</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		<u>118,014</u>	-	<u>118,014</u>	<u>122,767</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

DANCESYNDROME

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Current assets					
Debtors	11	5,298		12,323	
Cash at bank and in hand		200,631		191,890	
		<u>205,929</u>		<u>204,213</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(87,915)		(81,446)	
Net current assets			118,014		122,767
Net assets excluding pension liability			118,014		122,767
			<u>118,014</u>		<u>122,767</u>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds	15		118,014		122,767
			<u>118,014</u>		<u>122,767</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 2024.

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 10 December 2024



Mr M. Blackwell
Trustee

Company registration number 08402154 (England and Wales)

DANCESYNDROME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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 or grantors 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 2024

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 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and gifts	57,731	-	57,731	79,492	-	79,492
Grants receivable	105,285	133,563	238,848	165,378	-	165,378
	<u>163,016</u>	<u>133,563</u>	<u>296,579</u>	<u>244,870</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>244,870</u>

DANCESYNDROME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Dance workshops		
Dance performances and related income	67,989	67,868

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	1,569	210

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Charitable activities 2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	182,401	148,004
Phone, internet and IT costs	17,096	5,155
Rent and venue hire	11,018	7,255
Freelance fees and expenses	105,263	74,790
Insurance	338	381
Stationery and office supplies	-	3,962
Sundry expenses	8,828	9,099
Training expenses	1,184	-
Travel costs	10,981	-
Advertising and promotion	9,180	-
Consultancy and subscriptions	11,034	-
Professional fees	2,335	-
Production costs	9,163	-
	368,821	248,646
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	235,258	248,646
Restricted funds	133,563	-
	368,821	248,646

DANCESYNDROME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Trustees

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

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
	7	4
	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>
Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	168,020	132,647
Other pension costs	14,381	15,357
	<u>182,401</u>	<u>148,004</u>

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

9 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Accountancy fees	2,069	1,368
	<u>2,069</u>	<u>1,368</u>

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

11 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	1,250	11,373
Prepayments and accrued income	4,048	950
	<u>5,298</u>	<u>12,323</u>

DANCESYNDROME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security	3,881	3,452
Trade creditors	15,460	11,928
Other creditors	-	1,685
Accruals and deferred income	68,574	64,381
	<u>87,915</u>	<u>81,446</u>

13 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024 £	2023 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>14,381</u>	<u>15,357</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

14 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
Chorley Borough Council (Large Community Funding)	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
Freemasons of East Lancashire	-	2,661	(2,661)	-
Lancashire County Council (Partnership Grant)	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
Preston City Council	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Sport England Grant	-	4,708	(4,708)	-
The Edward Gostling Foundation	-	3,200	(3,200)	-
The Henry Smith Charity	-	42,383	(42,383)	-
National Lottery Community Fund (RC North West Region)	-	54,200	(54,200)	-
The Rank Foundation Pebbles Grant	-	2,000	(2,000)	-
Sport England's Together Fund	-	2,250	(2,250)	-
Barnes Cotton Districts Charity	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
Preston City Council (Councillor Khan)	-	500	(500)	-
Masonic Charitable Foundation	-	2,661	(2,661)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>133,563</u>	<u>(133,563)</u>	<u>-</u>

DANCESYNDROME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Digital infrastructure	-	-	-	28,000	28,000
General funds	122,767	232,574	(237,327)	(28,000)	90,014
	<u>122,767</u>	<u>232,574</u>	<u>(237,327)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118,014</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	59,833	312,948	(250,014)	-	122,767
	<u>59,833</u>	<u>312,948</u>	<u>(250,014)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>122,767</u>

It is the policy of the charity and at the request of the Trustees 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 which amounts to around £90,000.

The remaining unrestricted funding (approximately £28,000) has been designated to improve our digital infrastructure (including access for people with learning disabilities), a DanceSyndrome Retreat, and equipment for dancers.

Included within the unrestricted funds incoming resources of £232,574 is a £100,000 grant from Arts Council England.

16 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).