



2022/2023

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual report and accounts for the
year ended 31 August 2023



Improving the lives
of those with
Down syndrome
and their families.

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Our vision

**A world where everyone with
Down Syndrome lives their best life**

Our mission

**To empower parents & caregivers; to
educate professionals; to enlighten
the public; to lobby policy makers**

Introduction

The Board of Trustees present their Annual Report for the year ended 31 August 2023 under the Charities Act 2011, together with the financial statements for the year. The Board confirms that the latter comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the trust deed and the Charities SORP FRS 102 (2019).

Objects of the Charity

Relief of those in need by reason of parents and families of children and young people with Down syndrome in the UK through the provision of a forum that provides accurate up to date information on the realities of living with Down syndrome and is a central hub of information and resources for the condition.

The objects are exclusively for the public benefit to promote the effectiveness or efficiency of charities and to advance any other charitable purpose within the meaning of English Law.

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's purposes and aims, and when planning future activities. In particular, we consider how planned activities will contribute to the achievement of the objectives and aims.

Beliefs and aims for 2022

Down Syndrome UK works to improve the lives of people with Down syndrome, and their families. We primarily work in maternity care and the early years providing resources, training and support to parents and professionals to empower those with Down syndrome to thrive and flourish.

We believe every parent should receive the best possible care and support.

We believe the arrival of every baby with Down syndrome should be celebrated.

We believe every child with Down syndrome should be given every opportunity to flourish and thrive.

To enact these beliefs, we have 4 core aims which underpin our work:

1. Raising awareness of the modern reality of living with Down syndrome in the UK today.
2. Connecting parents of children with Down syndrome to experts, best practice, and each other.
3. Ensuring all children with Down syndrome have the best start in life, and access to the support to enable them to live their lives to the full.
4. Helping parents, the public, professionals, policy makers, and politicians to celebrate and support people with Down syndrome as valued and important members of society.

At DSUK we believe in...

Equality

The discrimination around Down syndrome must be challenged and addressed, so that people with Down syndrome and their families, should be treated with the same respect and care as anybody else.

Inclusion

Every child with Down syndrome should have the opportunity to be fully included in mainstream settings – both in and outside of education.

Research

To improve the lives of people with Down syndrome.





Our values

Real



We honestly and authentically reflect the experience of having a child or young person with Down Syndrome, because we have the lived experience.

Collaborative



We create a nurturing environment for those we work with to enable relationships to flourish and for all involved to contribute positively towards our mission.

Practical



We provide meaningful support, training and information to empower families and professionals.

Challenging



We work hard to change & challenge outdated perceptions/attitudes.

‘We are not afraid to address the elephant in the room.’

Impactful



Everything we do is with the intention to positively impact our families.

Meet the team

Trustees



Casimir Knight
Chair



Richard Baker
Treasurer



Caroline Warren



Jude Simpson

Staff



Nicola Enoch
CEO



Tracy Osbourne-Foulkes
Operations Manager



Farah Cutter
Design Lead



Holli Sheahan
Marketing & Social
Media Manager



Rachel Hristov
Community Fundraising
Coordinator



Vicky Price-John
Administrator



Jennifer McGeeney
Training Coordinator

Freelancers



Lucience Cooper
Training Manager



Caroline Turner
Regional Maternity
Manager



Sarah Ojar
Breastfeeding
Supporter



Amy-Louise Roche
Parent Supporter



June Rogers MBE
Children's Specialist
Continence Nurse



Sue Aucutt
Counsellor



Sandra Redman
Early Years Trainer



Dr Becky Baxter
Speech and Language
Therapist



Donna Murphy
Paediatric
Physiotherapist



Maggie Hart
Primary School
Trainer

Patrons



Leon Harrop



**Noah Matthews
Matofsky**



**Heidi & James
Carter**



**Christopher
Eccleston**

Timeline



2019

January
'pants4school' toilet training advice launched

2019

December
'Great Expectations' for pregnant mums launched

2018

December
'New Parent' group launched

2017

September
PADS Website Launched

2019

October
Toilet training support aged 5+ launched

2020

April
'Preschool parents' group launched

2020

May
'PADS Cares' support group launched

2020

August
'PADS Dads' support group launched

2020

December
Breastfeeding peer support group launched

2020

December
Launch antenatal care pathway with St George's hospital

2022

July
'16+ parents of young people/adults with Down syndrome' group launched

2022

April
The Down Syndrome Act enacted

2022

September
'PADS Primary Parents' support group launched

2021

September
PADS Party in the Park

2021

February
Secondary school age support launched

2021

January
Toileting for c&yp ARM's / Hirschprung's & Down syndrome group launched

2024

March
Royal College of Midwives collaboration to launch e-learning modules

2023

August
PADS Care parcels launched

2023

May
'PADS cares for grieving grandparents' group launched

2023

March
British Journal of Midwifery Conference

2022

October
Launched a national campaign, exhibited at Houses of Parliament 'You Can't Put Me Down-Syndrome'

2022

October
Exhibited at Royal College of Midwives Conference



Achievements and performances for 2023

In our fourth year as a registered charity, DSUK has grown significantly in income and activities, expanding our resources, support, outreach, and engagement.

Since inception, we've provided lived experiences to expectant and new parents via our website, distributing contemporary literature to maternity staff. We've enhanced our website and published #NobodyToldMe: the truth about Down syndrome, sent to expectant and new parents. We have welcomed more than 300 babies through our Great Expectations group and supported over 1,500 new parents.

DSUK is immensely proud of the wide range of resources and services that we offer. Initially focused on expectant and new parents, in response to demand, we extended our support to families with children in primary schools. Experienced volunteers and experts moderate our extensive range of closed Facebook groups, providing peer support and helping to identify issues needing attention.

We appointed Tracy Osborne-Foulkes as Operations Manager to support our CEO. Tracy had worked with us as a Regional Maternity Coordinator and demonstrated her excellent organisational skills. We further strengthened the team by appointing Jennifer McGeeney to provide admin support to our Training Manager. Amy Roche joined as our Parent Supporter, providing invaluable support to expectant and new parents. We were delighted to welcome Noah Matthews Matofsky, an inspiring actor, as a Patron.



Achievements and performances for 2023

Our online Early Development Groups and Physiotherapy Support provide essential information and support. These initiatives, developed and led by experienced experts, empower families with knowledge and practical advice, promoting early development and the opportunity for our children to flourish and thrive.

In September, we were excited to host more family get-togethers at our fabulous PADS Parties in the Park, with sessions in Cheshire and Buckinghamshire. Once again, Patrons Heidi and James joined us and enjoyed meeting over 120 families! Our new merchandise was a hit, and provided wonderful photo opportunities.

We were delighted to be finalists at the Nursing Times Awards for our highly impactful #Pants4School initiative, with over 4,500 parents and professionals accessing our free support. Our toilet training boot camps remain very popular, with many families from across the UK attending sessions.

We continue our pioneering work around educating and empowering parents and professionals about constipation, a condition that affects many of our preschool children.

In August 2023, we launched PADS Care Parcels for children with extended hospital stays, containing carefully curated gifts, treats and practical items as recommended by our parents.

DSUK values the importance of supporting mental health and wellbeing. Our weekly online yoga TomFit sessions promote holistic family wellbeing. Since 2020, we've provided independent professional counselling to individuals and groups, including bereaved parents.

Our Grandparents group remains active, with new support offered for bereaved grandparents, kindly funded by Freddie's Wishes. To better support dads, we launched a WhatsApp group and commissioned podcasts featuring their experiences.



Finalists at the Nursing Times Awards.



PADS Care Parcels for children with extended hospital stays.

Achievements and performances for 2023

We are committed to supporting our mothers who wish to breastfeed with peer support information and guidance. Our Breastfeeding Supporter, Sarah Ojar, has developed a breastfeeding training module for professionals and regularly delivers online sessions to expectant and new parents.

On World Down Syndrome Day, our CEO Nicola Enoch published an article with the OECD, spoke at the British Journal of Midwifery's Annual Conference, attended a celebratory event at the Houses of Parliament with our friends from the National Down Syndrome Policy Group, and the Charity Film Awards at Leicester Square as a finalist.

In June, DSUK exhibited at UKIO's Congress in Liverpool, where Nicola and patron Heidi were guest speakers. We also presented at the Virtual International Midwifery Conference – extending our reach beyond the UK!



YOU-CAN'T-PUT-US-DOWN SYNDROME



Achievements and performances for 2023

Training Manager Lucienne Cooper delivered training to over 2,200 medical professionals and students. Our powerful training module, based on our research 'Sharing the News – the Maternity Experience' of 1,410 women, highlights best practices, the importance and impact of language and attitudes, how to share the news that a baby has/may have Down syndrome and having a contemporary understanding of Down syndrome.



We actively support and promote research, with ongoing projects with the University of Hertfordshire on tube feeding, the maternity experience with the University of Warwick and probiotics to alleviate constipation with UCL. We presented again at the Down Syndrome Research Forum and exhibited at the Royal College of Midwives Research Forum in Birmingham.



We expanded our training for education professionals, publishing resources for parents and educators. Our collaboration with Twinkl extends our reach to 14 million users.

We delivered training sessions on over 20 topics, including will writing, guardianship, sleep apnoea, dysphagia, EHCPs, early toileting skills, audiology, weaning, positive behaviour and early communication skills.

We continue to invest time, money and resources in collaborating with maternity units across the UK. Our Regional Maternity Coordinators doubled our reach from 70 to 150 maternity units, ensuring a supply of PADS resources is available to expectant and new parents.

Achievements and performances for 2023

We attended maternity festivals and events, including exhibiting at the Royal College of Midwives conference in Cardiff, where maternity professionals were delighted to learn about PADS's services and resources. Wanting to extend our reach, we once again exhibited at the Primary Care Event at the NEC, where we engaged with GPs, health visitors, continence and school nurses.



At DSUK, we have always valued and appreciated the fantastic work local regional groups undertake nationwide, and we work hard to dovetail and complement their work. Aware that many groups do not have the capacity or resources to undertake the breadth of services our families benefit from, we identify where knowledge, support and information are lacking and develop resources and ongoing support accordingly.

Since 2015, Nicola has been organising and hosting an annual networking event to which the 100+ local groups are invited. In October 2022, the network conference was once again well attended, with both external speakers and those from within the community speaking on a range of topics.

We enjoyed another successful fundraising year, with fantastic support from our community with various initiatives, including the PADS Sunflower Challenge aimed at nurseries and early years settings and an online draw for signed copies of George Webster's book *This is me*. Dragon's Den favourites, Stand Out Socks collaborated with us to create a PADS sock that stood out and sold out! We are grateful to the National Lottery for a grant from their Reaching Communities grant, to The Scorfen Trust and Dorothy Pamela Smith CIO for their generous support.



Achievements and performances for 2023

DSUK has created an amazing community through our PADS parent facing groups, and we are always thrilled at how many families give of their time to support others. We appreciate the fantastic work of our volunteers, from social media support to knitting hats and bonding squares for new babies.

PADS Heart Buddies supported more than 60 families whose child underwent heart surgery and we have more than 40 awaiting surgery—special thanks to Rozie Haines, who, since March 2021, has kindly coordinated PADS Heart Buddies.



We are immensely grateful for the community's phenomenal support, which enables DSUK to remain a thriving, proactive and practical charity, working hard to ensure people with Down syndrome can live their best lives.





They made contact with us straight away and added us into the New Parent group. It was the first time since Down Syndrome was first mentioned to us immediately after birth that we didn't feel petrified. We received the loveliest pack in the post with lots of resources to help us on this journey and they have been supporting us as a family ever since.

We have been welcomed into an online community that is just so supportive and have also been lucky enough to meet a lot of other families in person at the yearly family days both in the North and South of the country. I honestly don't know where we would be without them!

The MacDonald Family



Massive thanks to Nicola and everyone at PADS - I honestly don't know where I'd be without PEGS and POPS helping me to support Sam, this is a lovely safe place to ask all the questions (or search for them) and the endless support whenever required. The work you all do is amazing!

Laura, mum to Sam



9,129

parents and professionals
were supported by Down
Syndrome UK in 2022-2023

Our year in numbers

We supported:



97

Expectant
women



887

New parents



1,699

Preschool
parents



**Positive about
Down syndrome**



62

Families through
heart surgery



42

babies awaiting
surgery



101 Heart Buddies
Volunteer's

**Heart
Buddies**



4,626

Families and professionals accessing Pants4School

pants4school



830

Preschool



648

Primary schools



137

Secondary
schools & 16+

st&r
support, training & resources

Number of professional members:



445

Professionals in
preschool settings



543

Professionals in
primary schools

dsuk
down syndrome uk

**the
DSUK
network**



110

Regional
support groups

Number of professionals trained:



567

Maternity
professionals



2,227

Health care
professionals and
students accessed
training through 69
events



174

Superstar
volunteers

Fundraising highlights from the past 12 months



Teddy's Trundle

Charli, a PADS parent, organised Teddy's Trundle. A walk from Peel to Douglas on a 21km adventure ending at Douglas Prom. They raised an incredible £4,921.



Sky Dive

We had seven thrill-seeking supporters take to the skies for a sky dive and collectively raised an incredible £17,361.



Cardiff Half Marathon

A team of 5 from UKLS took on the Cardiff Half Marathon, raising £1,762 in support of PADS.



Appalachian Trail

Paul Hills, one of our grandparents, hiked the Appalachian trail. He had to cut his adventure short but returned a second time to see how much further he could get. His fundraiser raised £500.



1,000,000 Steps

Gilly Wynne set a challenge of 1,000,000 steps in 3 months and raised £1,551. She said, "I wanted to support a charity that has been an absolute lifesaver for a friend of mine."



English Channel Swim

Nicole Murray is a wonderful Speech and Language Therapist who has worked with DSUK for 3 years. Nicole was part of a 4-person relay team, swimming the English Channel and she raised an incredible £2,380 for us.

Fundraising highlights from the past 12 months



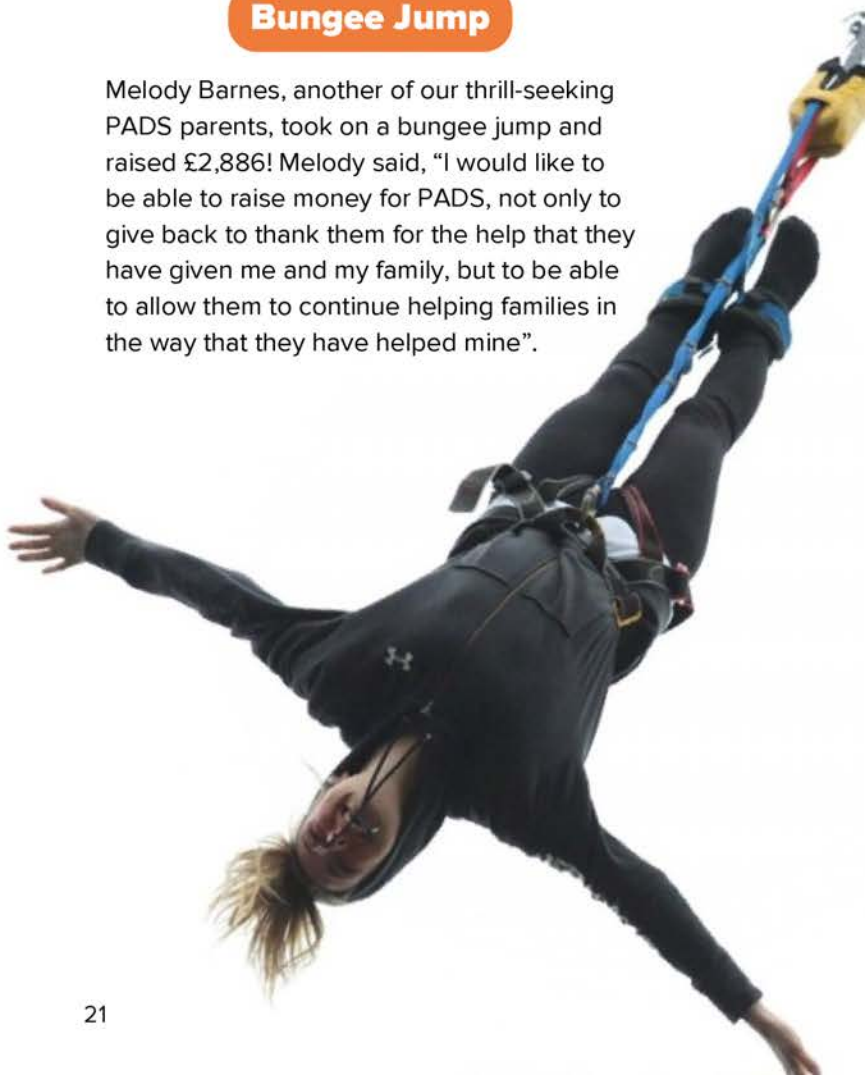
Tough Mudder

The operations team from Five Guys took on a Tough Mudder to support their training manager Ryan, wife Sarah and their son Conall who has Down syndrome. Ryan said, "Our son Conall was blessed with an extra chromosome, and he is such a special, inspirational boy. We will work tirelessly to raise positive awareness and make the world see that children born with Down syndrome deserve equality! Conall's smile lights up the room and he adores his big sister more than anyone! One of the captions for Down syndrome is 'theluckyfew' and we genuinely believe that we are the luckiest parents in the world to have Orlaith and Conall." They raised £2,184.



Bungee Jump

Melody Barnes, another of our thrill-seeking PADS parents, took on a bungee jump and raised £2,886! Melody said, "I would like to be able to raise money for PADS, not only to give back to thank them for the help that they have given me and my family, but to be able to allow them to continue helping families in the way that they have helped mine".



Feedback from parents and professionals



PADS has been an absolute lifeline. Without it, I don't know how we would have coped. From feeling so scared and alone, we can now see an exciting positive future for our son, and know that PADS is there to hold our hands all the way.

Sarah, mum to Charlie.



Nobody gets it unless you're actually in the same situation... so it's been amazing to be able to meet and chat with other mums who have the same concerns and worries, and to be able to see and hear from those further down the line to see that everything's going to be ok.

Beth, mum to Emily.



I enjoyed the new perspective given on Down syndrome and how little changes like language can have a big significance on families and how they view and feel about their babies. I feel more equipped to signpost parents to get information and support as well as supporting breastfeeding.

Midwifery student at University of Leicester.



Massive thanks to Nicola and everyone at PADS - I honestly don't know where I'd be without PEGS and POPS helping me to support Sam, this is a lovely safe place to ask all the questions (or search for them) and the endless support whenever required. The work you all do is amazing!

Laura, mum to Sam.



This evening I opened a package from the amazing team at Positive about Down syndrome. It made me cry! This is exactly what parents need in the first few hours after diagnosis, not 'we are sorry' and then nothing until you see your consultant. This information / education is so valuable.

Sarah, mum to Ayda.



Huge thanks to PADS for your eye screening session. I went into our ophthalmology appointment ready and armed. The optometrist listened to my concerns and was very impressed with my knowledge. I feel so relieved and grateful to this support group for all of the knowledge sharing.

Laura, mum to Lucy.

A close-up photograph of a woman with dark curly hair, smiling warmly at the camera. She is holding a young child with Down Syndrome, who is also smiling and looking towards the camera. The child has characteristic facial features and is wearing a white shirt. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting.

Parents' views

90%

of parents surveyed in 2023, advised DSUK is their go to place for support

95%

of parents trust the information they receive from DSUK

89%

of parents advised DSUK has helped them to feel empowered to support their child

Funding

The main risk to Down Syndrome UK would be a loss of funds due to our donors' inability to commit further funding.

Future Plans

DSUK is a dynamic and proactive Charity led and managed by parents of children and young people with Down syndrome. Immersed in the community, we identify and respond to issues and challenges our families face by providing the necessary information, resources, and support. We regularly connect with our families and undertake surveys to monitor our performance as well as to establish any needs we are not meeting. We also look to influence and impact national policy and practice by collaborating with relevant policymakers and providers.

During 2023/2024 we will continue to work hard to improve the maternity experiences of our parents and to ensure every baby with Down syndrome is welcomed into the world with the care and support they deserve. We will increase our reach to universities and maternity units to deliver training to future and current practitioners in maternity care and are looking to extend this to other medical professionals.

We continue to aim to provide more services and support to the education professionals who work with our children in pre and primary school settings.

DSUK continues to actively listen and respond to people with Down syndrome, their families and the professionals who work with them to work towards a more inclusive society.



Financial review

The majority of our income is generated by the generosity of parents, friends and families undertaking a range of challenges and activities to support our work. Our income for the year was £317,265 (2022:£245,685) and we spent £321,049 (2022:£253,097) as set out in these accounts. We ended the year with cash at bank of £158,272 (2022: £151,678).

Reserves Policy

Reserves are required to cover an unexpected loss of income and allow ongoing commitments to be met in these circumstances. Since the majority of our income is from gifts from private donors, a sudden loss of this income would likely result in a need to close the Charity. To mitigate this risk, we aim to have at least six months of staff costs plus three months of variable service costs, at any one time.

Investment Policy

As a young Charity, we have not yet built substantial investments and, in these early years, the aim is to protect our funds. We will consider a more formal policy as we grow.

Risk Management

The Trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the Charity faces.



Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

Down Syndrome UK is registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales, Registration Number 1184564. It is governed by a Trust Deed, dated 23 July 2019. The Charity was registered from 24 July 2019.

Approach to Governance

The Trustees appointed under the Trust Deed are entitled to hold office for a period of 2-4 years initially, with option to extend. Further Trustees may be appointed by invitation and resolution of the current Trustees.

The Trustees meet at least quarterly, to review existing projects and discuss new ones.

The Trustees provide governance to the Charity and assist the CEO and management to both develop the strategy and deliver it. The Trustees have a legal obligation to supervise and shepherd the Charity and have ultimate responsibility for the Charity and its activities. The Trustees aim to develop the Trustee board in order to increase its impact and diversity while supporting staff and the community.

The Trustees consider themselves as the key personnel of the Charity in charge of directing and controlling the Charity.

Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests to the board meetings and, in accordance with the Trust's policy, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.



Reference and administrative information

Trustees

The following served as Trustees during the year: -

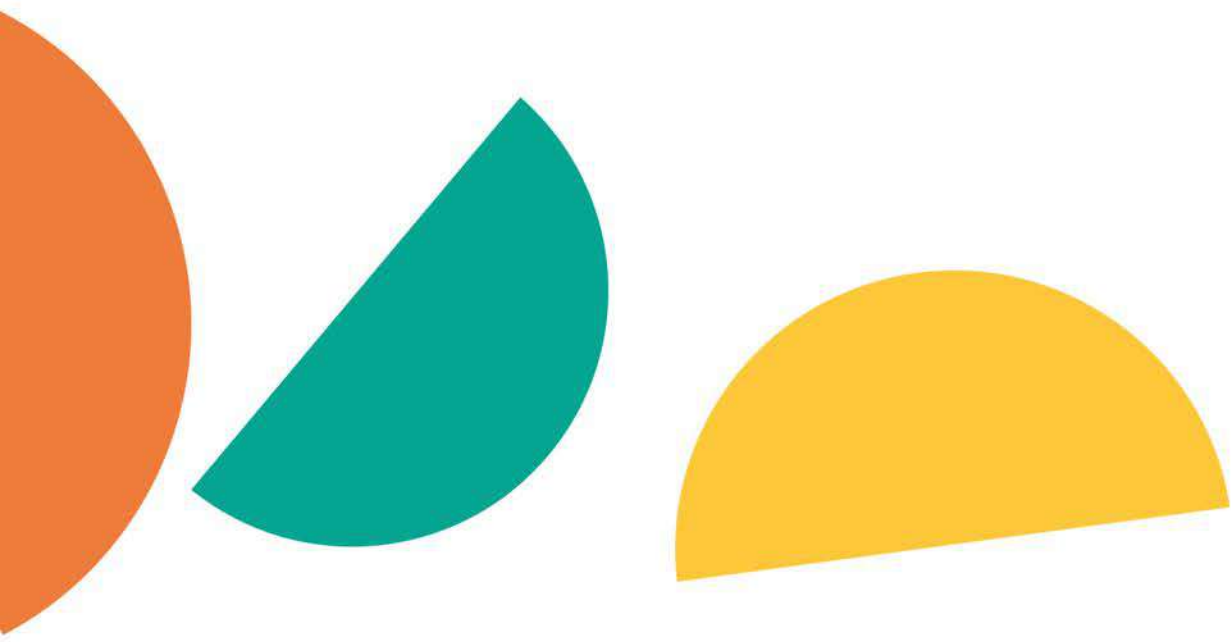
- C S B Knight (Chair)
- N Enoch (resigned April 2023)
- J F Simpson
- R F Baker (Treasurer)
- C L Warren

Trustee Recruitment and Training

The Trustees review and undertake recruitment and training as required.

Administrative information

Address	5 Hill Close Leamington Spa CV32 7RQ
Bankers	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Independent Examiner	Khizer Kayani ACA 2 Coldharbour Lane Bushey London WD23 4NS



Statement of the Trustee's responsibilities for the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards) and applicable law.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its net outgoing resources for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 21 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Casimir Knight
Chair

Statement of financial activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations		198,519	-	198,519	176,363
Gift aid		17,044	-	17,044	3,942
Grants		28,100	12,180	40,280	-
Interest		275	-	275	-
Charitable activities: Support Groups		<u>61,147</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,147</u>	<u>65,380</u>
Total income		<u>305,085</u>	<u>12,180</u>	<u>317,265</u>	<u>245,685</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Costs of generating funds		24,051	-	24,051	8,244
Charitable activities	2	<u>291,818</u>	<u>5,180</u>	<u>296,998</u>	<u>244,853</u>
Total resources expended		<u>315,869</u>	<u>5,180</u>	<u>321,049</u>	<u>253,097</u>
NET (EXPENDITURE)		(10,784)	7,000	(3,784)	(7,412)
Transfer between funds		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(10,784)	7,000	(3,784)	(7,412)
FUNDS AT 1 SEPTEMBER 2022 (2021)		<u>150,755</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,755</u>	<u>158,167</u>
FUNDS AT 31 AUGUST 2023 (2022)		<u>139,971</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>146,971</u>	<u>150,755</u>

COMPARATIVE YEAR

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:

Donations	176,363	-	176,363
Gift aid	3,942	-	3,942
Charitable activities: Support Groups	<u>65,380</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,380</u>

Total income	<u>245,685</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>245,685</u>
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EXPENDITURE ON:

Costs of generating funds	8,244	-	662
Charitable activities	<u>244,853</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,021</u>

Total resources expended	<u>253,097</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,683</u>
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NET (EXPENDITURE)	(7,412)	-	(55,696)
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Transfer between funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
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NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(7,412)	-	(55,696)
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FUNDS AT 1 SEPTEMBER 2021	<u>158,167</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>337,315</u>
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FUNDS AT 31 AUGUST 2022	<u>150,755</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>281,619</u>
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The notes on pages 31 to 37 form part of the financial statements

Balance sheet at 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	4	7,502	9,953
Cash at bank		<u>158,272</u>	<u>151,678</u>
		165,774	161,631
CREDITORS: Due within one year		<u>(18,803)</u>	<u>(10,876)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>146,971</u>	<u>150,755</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>146,971</u>	<u>150,755</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Unrestricted funds		139,971	150,755
Restricted funds	5	<u>7,000</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>146,971</u>	<u>150,755</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 21 June 2024
and signed on their behalf by:



C Knight
Chair

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Down Syndrome UK meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

Going Concern

In their assessment of going concern the Trustees have considered the significant cash balance and impact on the Charity of the current economic conditions.

Having regard to the above, the directors believe it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2023

b) Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty.

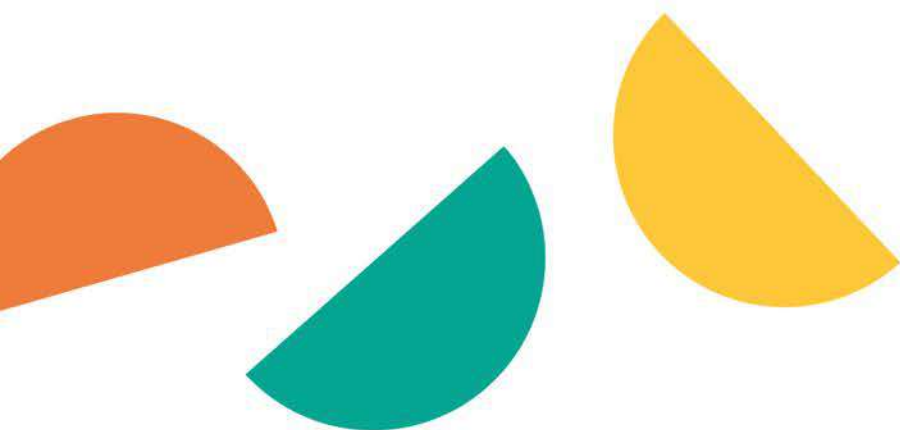
In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimation and underlying assumptions are 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 on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects the current and future periods.

In the view of the Trustees, no assumptions concerning the future or estimation uncertainty affecting the assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date are likely to result in a material adjustment to their carrying amounts in the next financial year.

c) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.



Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

d) Income

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy and receipt is probable.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

e) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as each liability is incurred.

Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with fundraising activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

f) Grants and Donations Payable

Grants are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the Charity.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2023

g) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds held by the charity are those which can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds are where specific conditions are imposed by the donor which restricts the use of unspent funds. The income is taken directly to the relevant restricted funds.

h) Taxation

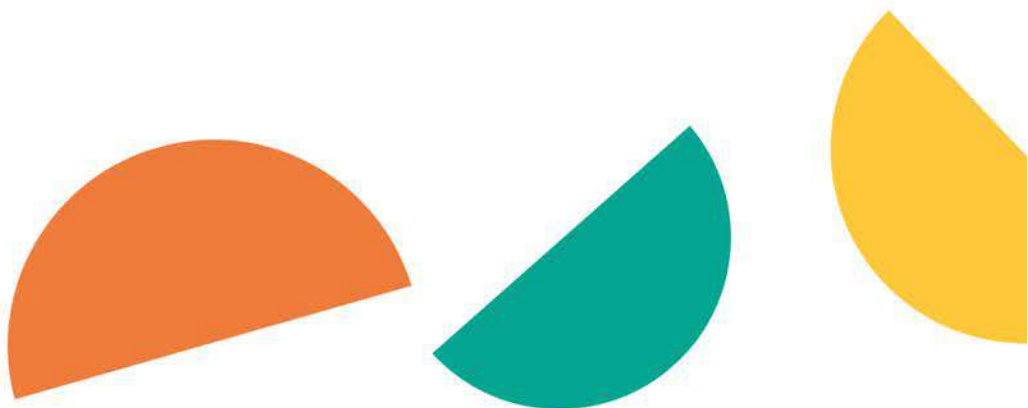
The Trust is exempt from income tax on its charitable activities.

i) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

j) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when 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.



Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

k) Cash

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Administration and support costs:				
Salary costs	148,636	-	148,636	95,324
Systems development and implementation	-	-	-	28,313
General operating costs	28,995	-	28,995	41,862
Advocacy and campaigning costs	8,627	-	8,627	
Charitable activities:				
Provision of services and resources including support groups, counselling, information sharing sessions, early development groups and physiotherapy	105,560	5,180	110,740	79,354
	<u>291,818</u>	<u>5,180</u>	<u>296,998</u>	<u>244,853</u>

2022 Comparatives

Administration and support costs:			
Salary costs	95,324	-	95,324
Systems development and implementation	28,313	-	28,313
General operating costs	41,862	-	41,862
Charitable activities:			
Provision of services and resources including support groups, counselling, information sharing sessions, early development groups and physiotherapy	79,354		79,354
	<u>244,853</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>244,853</u>

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2023

3. STAFF COSTS

	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Wages and salaries	<u>148,636</u>	<u>95,324</u>
Number of staff during the year:		
Administration	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
No employee earned over £60,000 in either year.		

4. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Gift aid reclaim and prepayments	<u>7,502</u>	<u>9,953</u>

5. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	1 September 2022 £	Movement in Funds		Transfers	31 August 2023 £
Restricted Funds		Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	£	
Awards for All	-	9,440	4,940	-	4,500
Freddie's Wishes	-	240	240	-	-
Dorothy Pamela Smith	<u>-</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,500</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>12,180</u>	<u>5,180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,000</u>

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2023

6. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	Cash at bank £	Current Assets £	Current Liabilities £	Liabilities after one year £	Total £
Restricted Funds					
Awards for all	4,500	-	-	-	4,500
Freddie's Wishes	-	-	-	-	-
Dorothy Pamela Smith	<u>2,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,500</u>
	7,000	-	-	-	7,000
Unrestricted Funds	<u>151,272</u>	<u>7,502</u>	<u>(18,803)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>139,971</u>
	<u><u>158,272</u></u>	<u><u>7,502</u></u>	<u><u>(18,803)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>146,971</u></u>

7. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

One Trustee received remuneration during the year of £31,833 (2022: £36,000) for services as the Charity's CEO. This Trustee resigned on 24 April 2023 and continues as CEO. The disclosure here is for the entire year.

8. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS FUNDS

A close family member of a Trustee was paid £1,632 (2022: £2,242) for their services during the year.

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Down Syndrome UK

I report on the financial statements of the Trust for the year ended 31 August 2023, which are set out on pages 29 to 37.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity, the charity's members as a body and the charity's trustees as a body for my independent examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.


Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Khizer Kayani ACA
2 Coldharbour Lane, Bushey, London, WD23 4NS



Date: 25 June 2024





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Down Syndrome UK Registered Charity No. 1184564

