



2023/2024

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual report and accounts for
the year ended 31 August 2024

Registered charity number: 1184564



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

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Introduction

Down Syndrome UK works to improve the lives of people with Down syndrome, and their families. Initially we concentrated on working 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. During the past year we have extended our offering and support to parents of children of primary school age.

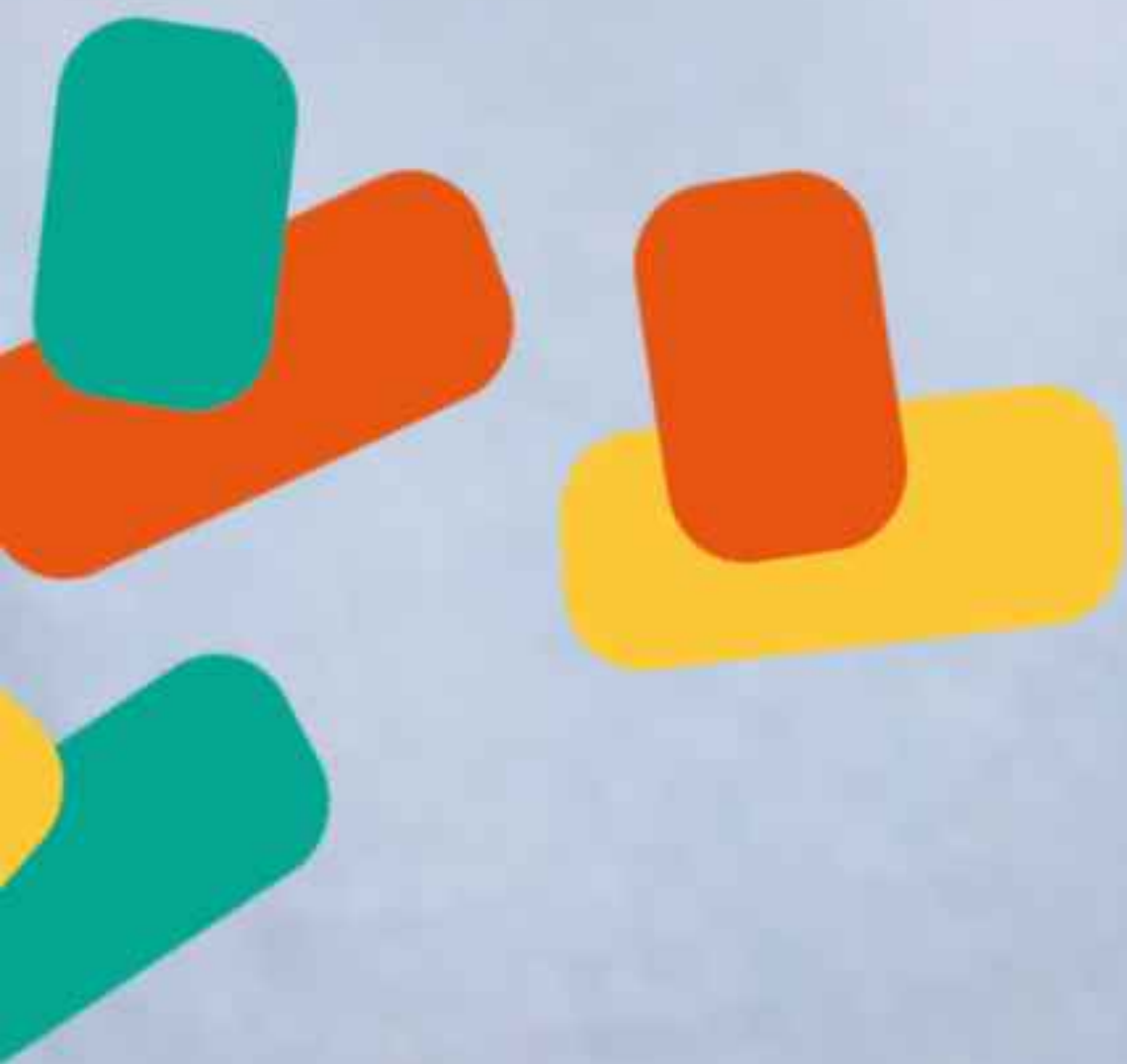


Our vision

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



At DSUK we believe...

We believe every expectant and new 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.

We believe every family should be cared about and empowered.

We believe every professional working with our members should be educated and supported.

We believe every student deserves the best education.

We believe every adult should have the opportunities and respect they deserve.

We believe everybody with Down syndrome should be included, valued and celebrated.

To enact these beliefs, we champion the lived experience by...

Empowering parents and caregivers with knowledge and support, by belonging to a strong community.

Educating professionals with evidence based insight and ongoing support.

Effecting change by lobbying policymakers with more informed policy guidance and knowledge-based solutions.

Enlightening the public with a contemporary and authentic view on everyday life 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



Dr Ayesha Mahmud

Staff



Nicola Enoch
CEO



Tracy Osborne-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



Kelly Field
Community Fundraising Coordinator



Jo Willcox
Executive Assistant to the CEO and Community Social Media and Marketing Coordinator



Dr Becky Baxter
Director of Education and Speech and Language Therapy

Freelancers



Lucience Cooper
Training Manager



Caroline Turner
Regional Maternity Manager



Sarah Ojar
Breastfeeding Supporter



Amy-Louise Roche
Parent Supporter



June Rogers MBE
Retired Children's Specialist Continence Nurse



Sue Aucutt
Counsellor



Sandra Redman
Early Years Trainer



Donna Murphy
Paediatric Physiotherapist



Maggie Hart
Primary School Trainer

Patrons



Lloyd Martin



Leon Harrop



Noah Matthews Matofsky



Heidi & James Carter



Christopher Eccleston

Timeline



Achievements and performances

We are immensely proud of all that we have achieved in this, our fifth year as a registered charity. Having initially focused on improving information and support in maternity care for expectant and new parents - and developing exceptional peer support and expert advice for parents of preschool-age children - we have, over the past year, built on our strong foundations by extending our services to support primary schools with children Down syndrome.

In January 2024, we were delighted to welcome Dr Becky Baxter to the team as Director of Education and Speech & Language. Becky is widely recognised as one of the UK's most experienced speech and language therapists. She has supported children from infancy through to adulthood, worked directly in education settings, and run early development and communication groups with local parent-led networks. Becky has been a tremendous asset to DSUK and our community, with her appointment already benefitting hundreds of families across the UK.




Early Years Development Programme

Becky had worked with DSUK on a consultancy basis since 2020 and had already begun developing our Early Years Development Programme, which we formally launched in summer 2024.

We were honoured to be invited by the online education provider Twinkl to deliver monthly webinars. Becky has led these since February 2024, and the feedback has been extremely positive - a fantastic opportunity for thousands of schools to access Down syndrome-specific expertise.

In May, we hosted a preschool education conference for families, which was well attended and received excellent feedback.



From information events, physio advice, early development groups and really practical EHCP advice, we feel so lucky to have had access to such a broad range of information and support as well as the brilliant online community of parents.

Parent, Rozie, September 2024

Achievements and performances

In preparation for the new academic year in 2024, Becky developed our Primary Education Programme (PEP), an extensive resource available to primary schools across the UK through an annual subscription. PEP includes regular expert-led online support, a CPD-accredited training course for classroom staff, a training video for all school staff, and access to practical guidance on learning, health, and behaviour. Schools also receive resources to support curriculum access and to track individual pupil progress.

As a parent-led charity, we understand first-hand the challenges many families face in securing an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) in England. In September, we launched a new service to support parents of children starting school and navigating the EHCP process.

To date, we have supported over 400 families through our closed Facebook groups, and our expert Justine is available to undertake individual EHCP draft reviews.



Primary
Education
Programme



Achievements and performances

Meeting families is always a highlight of our year. Our Celebratory Ball in October 2023 gave us the opportunity to connect and party with many families, and our regular PADS Party in the Park events in Buckinghamshire and Cheshire in September were also well attended.

As the charity has grown rapidly, we recognised the importance of pausing to reflect and plan ahead. We were pleased to be selected by the CAF Foundation for a Resilience Grant, which funded the part-time appointment of Jo Willcox as Executive Assistant to our CEO, a role she began in June 2024. At our summer team meeting, we began work on our Theory of Change and have continued to co-develop our strategic plans.

Another exciting development was the opportunity to work pro bono with leading creative agency Havas London to develop and refine our branding.



orange
HEX #E55625
CMYK 4, 81, 100, 0
RGB 229, 86, 37
Pantone 7417 C



gold
HEX #FBC73C
CMYK 1, 22, 87, 0
RGB 251, 199, 60
Pantone 123 C

teal
HEX #00A390



DSUK
Down Syndrome UK

Achievements and performances

We continue to value the opportunity to share our work at exhibitions and conferences. This year, we were invited to exhibit and speak at the Institute of Health Visiting's SEND conference, where CEO Nicola and our toilet training expert June Rogers MBE presented a session on our award-nominated #pants4school programme. We were immensely proud when June received an award at the RCN Awards in recognition of her outstanding contribution to our work.



Our Annual Conference for DSUK's network of local support groups was well attended, featuring a diverse range of speakers including students from Star College, Prof Simon Gaisford from UCL, Claire Cookson of DFN Project Search, professionals from The Feeding Trust and members from groups sharing best practice on holiday clubs and group family time away.



World Down Syndrome Day is always a highlight in our calendar. This year, Trustee Caroline and CEO Nicola - both founding members of the National Down Syndrome Policy Group - attended a reception at 10 Downing Street hosted by Dr Liam Fox.

Achievements and performances

Once again, we were blown away by the phenomenal support of our community, with families across the UK marking the day and raising over £60,000 to support DSUK's work. Our Sunflower Challenge continues to grow in popularity in early years settings, while families baked, ran, swam, rattled tins and raised both funds and awareness in wonderful ways. We are immensely grateful.



Research remains a key part of our work. We continued our collaboration with Professor Simon Gaisford of UCL on the use of probiotics to improve or eliminate symptoms of constipation. We also worked with the University of Warwick to publish findings from our study on maternity experiences, *Down syndrome in maternity care: Mothers' experiences of mental health support*. A key finding reinforced the need for specific training and support for maternity professionals: In the CQC's 2022 national Maternity Survey, 85% of women felt they had received adequate mental health support during pregnancy. Among mothers of a baby with Down syndrome in our survey, just 38.1% said the same.



This stark contrast underlines the urgency of our continued efforts in this area.

Since our inception, we've provided free resources to maternity units to signpost families to PADS. This year alone, we posted over 400 maternity packs to nearly 200 settings. We are proud to now supply every maternity unit in Wales and nearly two-thirds of the 231 in England. These resources are only possible thanks to our Regional Maternity Coordinators and our brilliant fundraisers.

We exhibited at the RCM Conference in Liverpool and presented at Midwifery Festivals in London, Birmingham, Manchester and Bristol. Following a conversation at the RCM Conference, we began collaborating with the RCM to co-produce a series of i-learning 'coffee modules' - the first of which launched in March 2024.



Achievements and performances

In March 2024, we also exhibited at the RCPCH Conference in Birmingham, where we received a warm welcome from paediatricians interested in the breadth of support we provide to families.

Training remains a priority, for both families and professionals. During the year, we continued to educate and empower parents through a range of sessions and resources. Our evening information-sharing sessions have grown in popularity - 37 sessions were delivered to nearly **1,500** parents, covering topics such as dysphagia and will writing. We also began working with two specialist charities: The Feeding Trust and Glue Ear Together, both offering highly valued support to our families.

We deliver training both in person and online to professionals across education and healthcare. Our lunchtime maternity webinars continue to grow, with Training Manager Lu hosting 9 sessions attended live by **675** professionals - with many more accessing recordings. In total, we delivered over 89 training sessions to almost **2,000** professionals.

Our Heart Buddies programme, coordinated by Rozie Haines, supported nearly 50 families this year whose child underwent heart surgery. We remain deeply thankful to Rozie for her care, compassion and tireless work.

Collaboration is central to our approach. We were proud to join the Maternal Mental Health Alliance, with CEO Nicola presenting at a members' meeting, and an MMHA representative delivering an insightful session at one of our maternity webinars.

We continue to work hard to fill gaps in information and services. During the year, we published several new resources, including Choosing a Primary School, The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health booklet for health visitors, A guide to breastfeeding a baby with Down syndrome, and the Breastfeeding Professionals Report 2024.

A known pressure point for families is the Disability Living Allowance application process. In response, we launched a new support service. Parent Lisa - a former DWP employee - now delivers regular online sessions guiding families through DLA applications and renewals.



Thank you

DSUK has created a thriving parent community through our PADS groups. We are grateful to the many families who give their time to support others - whether through being a member of our social media team or knitting bonding squares and hats for newborns. We are also deeply grateful to our Board of Trustees for generously giving their time and sharing their expertise to ensure we continue to work hard to ensure everyone with Down syndrome can live their best life.

"Thanks to PADS for everything you do to support us parents and children. From getting all the support and giving us access to resources to advice on how to navigate our journey including educating us on knowing our rights! Championing our children is easy. The hard bit is to convince the rest of the world and policy makers that our kids deserve the same basic rights and more!"

Parent, Anoushka



“
Thank you to PADS for the amazing support this year I joined the great expectations group at the start of the year and will forever be grateful. It's crazy to think this time last year I'd never heard of PADS and then the impact had this year, the feeling of not being alone, the education and the party in the park have really made this year so different.
Thank you!

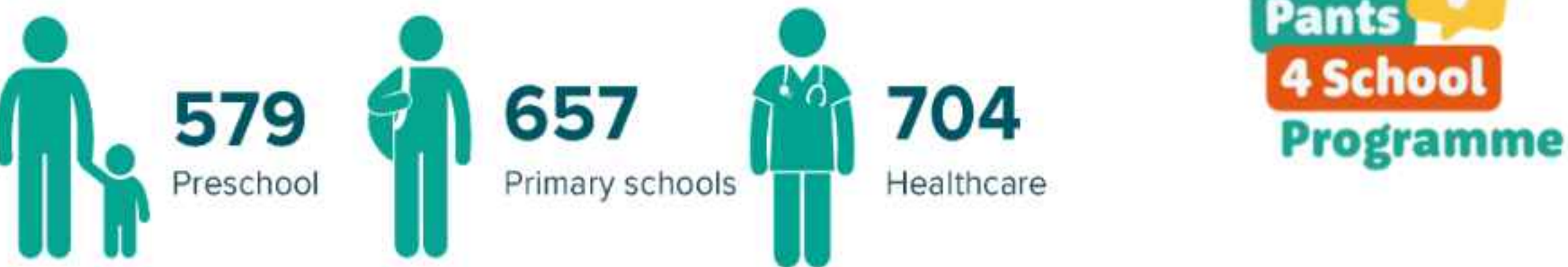
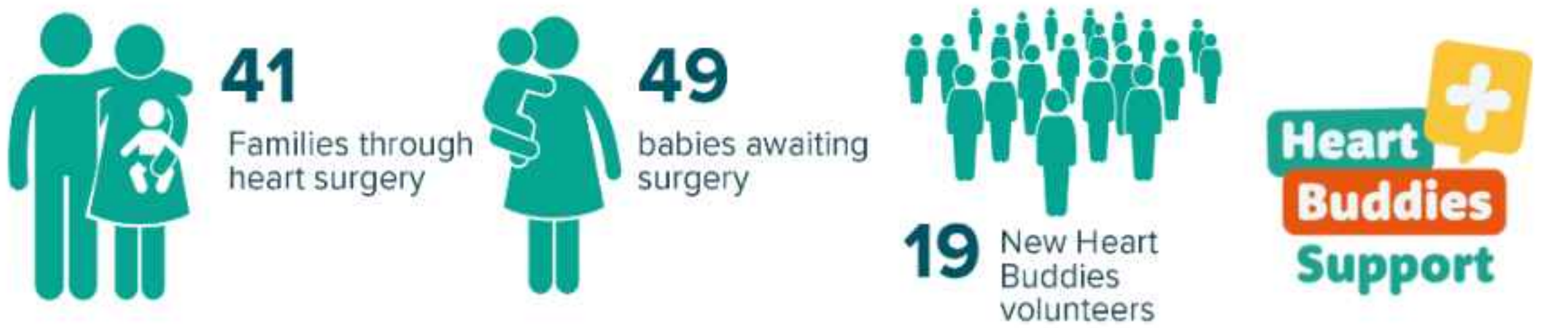
Parent, Samantha
December 2024



Our year in numbers



Welcomed: Number of parents supported:



Number of professional members:



Number of resources distributed:





Parents' views surveyed in 2024

97%

parents said that PADS was supportive

93%

parents said that PADS was non-judgemental

90%

parents said that PADS was inspiring

92%

agreed that PADS is their go to place for general support, the opportunity to ask questions and seek advice and support around Down syndrome.

Feedback from parents and professionals



"DSUK/PADS is aspirational, unapologetic, professional, fast-paced, productive, responsive, attractive, easy to access, well networked - Huge respect and gratitude for those at the helm".

Parent, PADS survey 2024



"You guys are great! Without PADS there are genuinely times where my son would have had poorer health outcomes, wouldn't have the EHCP he has, etc. The way the charity connects parents across the country is second to none".

Parent, PADS survey 2024



"Thank you - it's hard to comprehend how much PADS offers, with such a small team.

You have made our journey since pregnancy, through heart surgery, to where we are now so much smoother and more well-informed than it might have been.

When we found out the likely Down syndrome diagnosis early in pregnancy, I was frantically googling and searching to try and find something like PADS. And then I found you, and you are everything we need."

Parent, PADS survey 2024



"I attended this Information Sharing Session by DSUK/PADS last night and it was fantastic! Super informative, especially for a student like me who has not necessarily had much teaching around this topic. Loved how it focused on not just difficulties but the strengths of those with Down syndrome too."

Jodie, Final Year SaLT, 2024



"We, at Owls Nursery, have been delighted to receive all the lovely resources from DSUK in relation to the very informative training provided regarding Down Syndrome. The feelings and emotions cards, behaviour poster, sound cards and matching activities are all incorporated into daily nursery routines alongside other teaching resources to further support and develop strengths in all areas of the EYFS curriculum."

Owls Nursery, December 2024



Fundraising

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has fundraised for Down Syndrome UK this year. From intrepid challenge participants to dedicated school communities and generous corporate partners, your phenomenal support has helped us provide vital resources and make a positive difference to families across the UK.

Community fundraising highlights

Our community of fundraisers never ceases to amaze and inspire. Highlights from this year include:



A team of five took on the **London Landmarks Half Marathon**, including parent supporter Amy-Louise and her husband Sean.



Ten thrill-seekers, including Aisha pictured here with her niece Mia, braved a skydive for **World Down Syndrome Day**.



The **Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge** saw fundraisers tackle rugged terrain in support of DSUK.



Ava Batty, our youngest challenge event participant, raised over £1,800 – a remarkable achievement.



Toad Hall Nursery hosted a charity fun day, raising over £2,000



A team completed the **London Marathon** for DSUK.



Supporters also took part in the **Sunflower Challenge, Allstate's 5K fun run**, and other events across the year.



Rosemead Prep selected DSUK as their charity of the year, raising over £1,500 through events such as a fun run, Christmas raffle, and non-uniform days.

Charity Partners

We are fortunate to have been supported by several organisations this year:

Morgan Lewis

Morgan Lewis, our charity partner of the year, raised £3,534 through various fundraising activities, with an additional £2,276 from a team member who took on the Hampton Court Half Marathon.



Delta Balustrades, Rosemead Prep and Toukon Academy selected DSUK as their charity of the year, with Toukon raising £1,000 in one event alone.

Cash 4 Clothes, collection company based in Essex, supported us in 2024 with monthly donations from clothing collections – with a minimum of £50 expected each month.

We continue to benefit from creative and heartfelt fundraising ideas. From **Colour-In Christmas Cards** to sponsored reads, every initiative plays a part in helping us support families and raise awareness.

To all who took part, donated, or cheered on from the sidelines – thank you. Your efforts bring us closer to our vision: ***a world where everyone with Down syndrome lives their best life.***



We were delighted to be nominated by Antony Adler of Adler Fairways and to win £2,000 at AVIVA's event in London in October.

We invested in approaching Trusts and Foundations, and were very grateful to the Souter Foundation, Albert Gubay, CAF Foundation and Compton Scorfen who each kindly supported our work.

Legacy

We were very grateful to Kathleen Aucutt, proud grandmother to actor Bethany Asher, who kindly left a generous donation to DSUK in her will.



Events and Campaigns

The **DSUK Celebratory Ball** in October was a fantastic evening, with over 80 people coming together to celebrate. We were joined by our Patrons Noah, James and Heidi. Highlights included a lively auction and a memorable group conga.



In March, a heartfelt **memorial football match** in honour of Ollie Baillie raised over £1,000, bringing people together in memory and support.

Our **Christmas Campaign** invited donations to support our PADS Care Parcels – a thoughtful initiative providing comfort and care for families during challenging times.



Funding and financials

Funding

The main risk to Down Syndrome UK would be a loss of funds due to our donors no longer being able 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 that our families face by providing 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 2024/2025 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 aim to provide more services and support to the education professionals who work with our children in pre and primary school settings, as well as to our families of older children and young people.

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 £378,974 (2023: £317,265) and we spent £361,055 (2023: £321,049) as set out in these accounts. We ended the year with cash at bank of £206,147 (2023: £158,272).

Reserves Policy

Reserves are required to cover an unexpected loss of income and to allow ongoing commitments to be met in these circumstances. Since the majority of our income is by gift 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 the Board of Trustees as comprising the key management personnel of the Charity in charge of directing and controlling the Charity and running and operating the Charity on a day to day basis.

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.



Structure, governance and management

Reference and administrative information

Trustees

The following served as Trustees during the year and up to the date of this report: -

- C S B Knight (Chair)
- J F Simpson
- R F Baker (Treasurer)
- C L Warren
- Dr A Mahmood (appointed November 2023)

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 16 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by



Casimir Knight
Chair



Statement of financial activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations		230,874	-	230,874	198,519
Gift aid		30,343	-	30,343	17,044
Grants		13,000	32,963	45,963	40,280
Interest		316	-	316	275
Charitable activities: Support Groups		<u>71,478</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,478</u>	<u>61,147</u>
Total income		<u>346,011</u>	<u>32,963</u>	<u>378,974</u>	<u>317,265</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Costs of generating funds		41,975	-	41,975	24,051
Charitable activities	2	<u>298,513</u>	<u>20,567</u>	<u>319,080</u>	<u>296,998</u>
Total resources expended		<u>340,488</u>	<u>20,567</u>	<u>361,055</u>	<u>321,049</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		5,523	12,396	17,919	(3,784)
Transfer between funds		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		5,523	12,396	17,919	(3,784)
<i>FUNDS AT 1 SEPTEMBER 2023 (2022)</i>		<u>139,971</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>146,971</u>	<u>150,755</u>
FUNDS AT 31 AUGUST 2024 (2023)		<u><u>145,494</u></u>	<u><u>19,396</u></u>	<u><u>164,890</u></u>	<u><u>146,971</u></u>

The notes on pages 29 to 38 form part of the financial statements



Statement of financial activities

COMPARATIVE YEAR

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:

Donations	198,519	-	198,519
Gift aid	17,044	-	17,044
Grants	28,100	12,180	40,280
Interest	275		275
Charitable activities: Support Groups	61,147	-	61,147
	<u>305,085</u>	<u>12,180</u>	<u>317,265</u>
<i>Total income</i>			
<i>EXPENDITURE ON:</i>			
Costs of generating funds	24,051	-	24,051
Charitable activities	291,818	5,180	296,998
	<u>315,869</u>	<u>5,180</u>	<u>321,049</u>
<i>Total resources expended</i>			
<i>NET (EXPENDITURE)</i>	<i>(10,784)</i>	<i>7,000</i>	<i>(3,784)</i>
<i>Transfer between funds</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</i>	<i>(10,784)</i>	<i>7,000</i>	<i>(3,784)</i>
<i>FUNDS AT 1 SEPTEMBER 2022</i>	<i>150,755</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>150,755</i>
<i>FUNDS AT 31 AUGUST 2023</i>	<i>139,971</i>	<i>7,000</i>	<i>146,971</i>

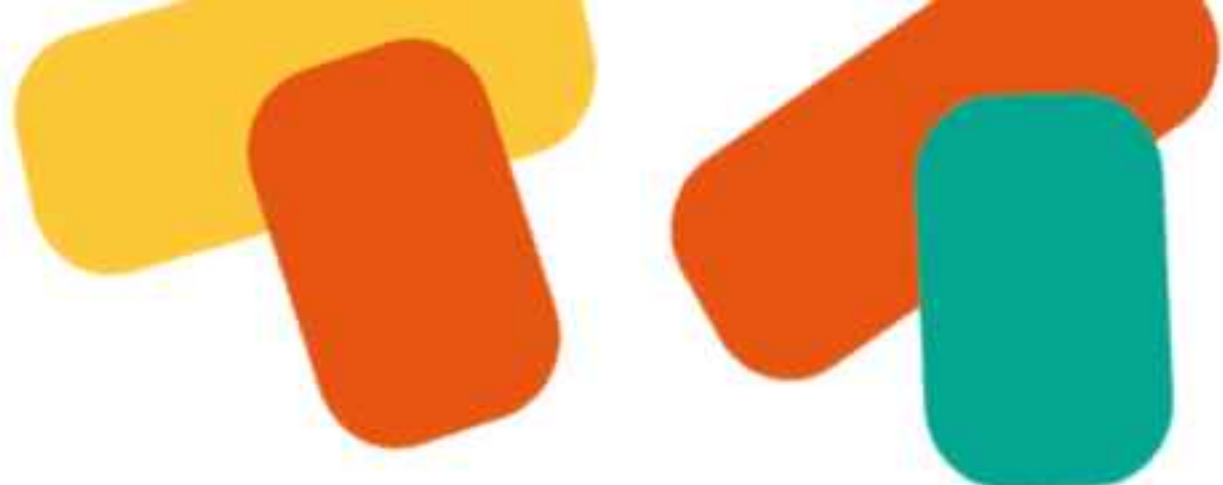
The notes on pages 29 to 38 form part of the financial statements

Balance sheet at 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		1,675	-
Debtors	4	12,843	7,502
Cash at bank		<u>206,147</u>	<u>158,272</u>
		220,665	165,774
CREDITORS: Due within one year		<u>(55,775)</u>	<u>(18,803)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>164,890</u>	<u>146,971</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>164,890</u>	<u>146,971</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Unrestricted funds		145,494	139,971
Restricted funds	5	<u>19,396</u>	<u>7,000</u>
		<u>164,890</u>	<u>146,971</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 16 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

C Knight
Chair



Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

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 2024

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 2024

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 2024

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.



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 £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Administration and support costs:	177,134	2,389	179,523	148,636
Salary costs	-	-	-	-
Systems development and implementation	22,650	-	22,650	28,995
General operating costs	-	-	-	8,627
Advocacy and campaigning costs	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities:	98,729	18,178	116,907	110,740
Provision of services and resources including support groups, counselling, information sharing sessions, early development groups and physiotherapy				
	<u>298,513</u>	<u>20,567</u>	<u>319,080</u>	<u>296,998</u>

2023 Comparatives

Administration and support costs:	148,636	-	148,636
Salary costs	-	-	-
Systems development and implementation	28,995	-	28,995
General operating costs	8,627	-	8,627
Advocacy and campaigning costs	105,560	-	110,740
Charitable activities:		5,180	

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2024

3. STAFF COSTS

	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Wages and salaries Number of staff during the	<u>179,523</u>	<u>148,636</u>
year:		
Administration	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>
No employee earned over £60,000 in either year.		

4. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Gift aid reclaim and prepayments	<u>12,843</u>	<u>7,502</u>

5. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	1 September 2023 £	Movement in Funds		Transfers	31 August 2024 £
		Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	£	
Restricted Funds					
Awards for All		-	4,500	-	-
	4,500				
Albert Gubay	-	7,014	4,121	-	2,893
CAF resilience	-	19,445	5,189	-	14,256
RTR	-	6,504	4,257	-	2,247
Dorothy	<u>2,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Paula Smith					
	<u>7,000</u>	<u>32,963</u>	<u>20,567</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,396</u>

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2024

6. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	Cash at bank £	Current Assets £	Current Liabilities £	Liabilities after one year £	Total £
Restricted Funds					
Albert Gubay	46,379	-	(43,486)	-	2,893
CAF resilience	14,256	-	-	-	14,256
RTR	2,247	-	-	-	2,247
	<u>62,882</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(43,486)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,396</u>
Unrestricted Funds	<u>143,265</u>	<u>14,518</u>	<u>(12,289)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>145,494</u>
	<u>206,147</u>	<u>14,518</u>	<u>(55,775)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>164,890</u>

7. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

No Trustees claimed any expenses.

8. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No related party transactions.

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 2024, which are set out on pages 30-36.

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: 1 June 2025



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Down Syndrome UK Registered Charity No. 1184564

