

Growing Different

England & Wales · Charity number 1196698

Details

Other names ALPHABET CHILDREN, NEUROTASTIC

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2021-11-22

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Growing Different
Allia Future Business Centre
Kings Hedges Road
Cambridge
CB4 2HY

Phone 03003020044

Email Info@growingdifferent.org.uk

Website growingdifferent.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH NEURODEVELOPMENTAL CONDITIONS (NDCS) IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:• RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND RAISING AWARENESS OF ALL ASPECTS OF NDCS AND NEURODIVERSITY;• PROVIDING SUPPORT AND INFORMATION FOR THOSE WORKING WITH OR CARING FOR THOSE WITH NDCS;• UNDERTAKING OR SUPPORTING RESEARCH INTO NDCS AND ENSURING THE USEFUL RESULTS ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS CLAUSE:‘NEURODEVELOPMENTAL CONDITIONS’ MEANS A CONDITION OR IMPAIRMENT OF THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRAIN AND/OR CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM. ‘NEURODIVERSITY’ MEANS THE RANGE OF DIFFERENCES IN INDIVIDUAL BRAIN FUNCTION, COGNITION, LEARNING AND BEHAVIOURAL TRAITS

Activities: We provide support and information for those working with or caring for those with neurodevelopmental conditions (NDCs). We also work independently and in collaboration with other organisations to raise awareness, understanding and research into overlapping, complex and lesser known NDCs.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Disability, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Ireland
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£212	£6,038	-	-
2024-04-05	£10,237	£4,093	-	-
2023-04-05	£804	£794	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
CATHERINE HIGNEY	Chair	2021-04-08
JUSTINE HARRIS MS		2021-04-08
Marivjena Menka		2025-03-01

Growing Different

England & Wales - Charity number 1196698

Accounts

Registered charity number 1196698



**Annual Report and Unaudited Financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025 for Neurotastic**

Page Contents

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 31 March 2025	3
Trustees annual report for the year ended 31 March 2025	4
Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2025	6
Notes to the account for the year ended 31 March 2025	8

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 31 March 2025

Main address

Neurotastic / Growing Different
Future Business Centre
King's Hedges Road
Cambridge
Cambridgeshire
CB42HY
United Kingdom
Tel: 0300 3020044
neurotasticuk@gmail.com

Trustee members

Justine Harris - Treasurer
Marivjena Menka - Trustee
Catherine Higney - Chair

Bankers

NatWest Bank
Head office
36 St Andrew Square
Edinburgh
EH2 2YB

Independent examination of accounts

Not required — annual income under £25,000

Governance and management

The charity is a Foundation Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, number 1196698. It is operated under the rules of its constitution, registered 22nd November 2021. Trustees oversee governance, and projects are delivered by trustees, contractors, and volunteers.

Trustees annual report for the year ended 31 March 2025

Aims and objectives

We support children with complex neurodevelopmental differences and their families. We raise awareness, share practical information, and support joined-up approaches that highlight strengths. We do not provide individual advice.

Achievements for the year end 31 March 2025

Website and Information Growth

The website remains our main platform for sharing information. We expanded content and saw dramatic growth in the last year.

- We have added new information areas, making this now over 30 different topics.
- Over the past year we have doubled, with 1,500 new users to the site — up 130% from the previous year. There was strong growth in organic searches (979) — up 170%.
- Pages like *Hyperlexia* saw over 1000% traffic increase.
- Direct searches (538) are up 83% from the previous year. Most are from google (920).

Trusted Information Creator Tick awarded for the second time

We are pleased to announce that we have again gained the PIF quality mark (Patient Information Forum). This is a UK-wide quality mark for trusted health information.

New Name - Growing Different

Following user consultation, we are transitioning to “Growing Different — Understanding Unique Minds.” We are retaining “Neurotastic” during the transition phase, until September 2025.

Parent Survey Report

In May to June 2024, nearly 400 parents responded to a national survey on needs and priorities. Results were published and shared.

Children’s Picture Book “Alphabet Boy”

This was written in 2024, from a child’s lived experience of autism, speech delay and hyperlexia. This was developed and supported by Neurotastic using National Lottery Funds. It is being further edited and updated, with a view to launch in autumn 2025.

Policy Updates

With pro bono support from LawWorks and Morgan Lewis, and through the PIF (Patient Information Forum) assessment process, several governance and information policies were updated.

Thank you to our supporters

We thank everyone who support us with time, advice, or donations this year. We especially acknowledge a generous donation via JustGiving and pro bono legal support from Morgan Lewis view LawWorks.

Reserves policy

We aim to build reserves equivalent to 12 months of unrestricted costs. This is currently £300 and expected to rise to £2,000 in 2026.

Trustees, volunteers and self-employed contractors

We welcome our new trustee, Marivjena Menka.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Signed _____ Date: 10th August 2025

Catherine *Higney*, Chair

Neurotastic - Registered Charity Number 1196698**Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
Receipts and Payments:				
Income Receipts				
Loans	0	0	0	333
Grants	0	0	0	9904
Direct Charitable Payments				
Donations	212	0	212	0
Net (payments)/receipts	212	0	212	10237
Bank Balance 31 March			299	6155
EXPENDITURE Charitable activities				
Parent Survey	0	119	119	498
Picture Book Production	0	3026	3026	1147
Information Production	0	1737	1737	186
Video Production	0	176	176	0
Governance & Membership	0	419	419	215
Project Administration	0	14	14	1668
Website / IT	0	547	547	116
Total payments	0	6038	6038	3830
Net (deficit) of receipts & payments	-5826	0	-5826	13
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	299	0	299	6155
Monetary Assets				
NatWest Bank Account	0	0	0	0
Liabilities				
Total Loan from Trustee (Note 2)	-1124	0	-1124	-1124
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	-825	0	-825	-791
NET ASSETS	-825	0	-825	5020
FUNDS				
Restricted funds	0	0	0	6144
Unrestricted funds	-825	0	-825	-1124
TOTAL FUNDS	-825	0	-825	5020

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the organisation by:

Trustee (Treasurer): Justine Harris

Dated 13th August 2025

Trustee: Catherine Higney

Dated 13th August 2025

Notes to the account for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Income and expenditure accounts

All income is recognised when the charity becomes entitled, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably. Cash includes bank accounts available for immediate use. Expenditure is recorded when there is an obligation to pay. Accounts cover the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

Note: In 2025, expenses were grouped by project activity rather than itemised lines for clarity. Records remain consistent.

2. Grants, Donations and Loans

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Loans	0	0	0	333
Grants	0	0	0	9904
Donations	212	0	212	0
Total	212	0	212	10237

The loan from the trustee is interest free and repayable on demand once the CIO has generated sufficient funds to permit repayment. No guarantees or securities are in place..

3. Designated funds

There were no designated funds during the year ended 31 March 2025.

4. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds may be used at the trustees' discretion to support the charity's aims. Restricted funds must be spent on specified activities set by the donor. In 2024-25, we received £212 in unrestricted donations via JustGiving. We thank the giver for this generous donation. £6,074 of restricted National Lottery funding from the previous year was used for the picture book, information resources, video, and parent survey. The unrestricted fund showed a deficit due to no new income.

5. Trustee members remuneration

One trustee has provided an interest-free loan across 2021-2023 (£1,124 total), which remains unpaid. No other payments were made to trustees.

6. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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. Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

7. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Growing Different

England & Wales - Charity number 1196698

Accounts

Registered charity number 1196698



**Annual Report and Unaudited Financial statements
for the year ended 5 April 2024 for Neurotastic**

Page Contents

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 5 April 2024	3
Trustees annual report for the year ended 5 April 2024	4
Statement of financial activities for the year ended 5 April 2024	5
Notes to the account for the year ended 5 April 2024	7

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 5 April 2024

Main address

Allia Future Business Centre,
Kings Hedges Road,
Cambridge
CB4 2HY

Trustee members

Justine Harris - Treasurer
Andy Matthews - Trustee
Kate Higney - Chair

Independent examination of accounts

Not required, turnover under £25,000

Governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by its constitution and registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, number 1196698. The trustees are responsible for the overall management and control of the charity. The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Trustees annual report for the year ended 5 April 2024

Aims and objectives

We are a charity for children with complex neurodevelopmental differences and their families. It is our goal to help neurodivergent children and their families to lead fulfilling lives. We raise awareness, carry out surveys, provide practical information, and contribute to research and education. Our services do not include individual advice. Our charity highlights the strengths of neurodivergent children. We encourage a more joined up approach unique to each person, and the development of practical resources for individuals, families, and those who support them, in order to promote inclusion, wellbeing, and informed decision-making.

Achievements to date

During the year, the charity developed and published online resources relating to neurodevelopmental differences and neurodiversity, and delivered educational content aimed at improving understanding and access to support. Activities were carried out in furtherance of the charity's objects.

Thank you to our supporters

Neurotastic would like to thank all of the people who have supported us through their time, advice or donations. We appreciate this and could not exist without it.

Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain modest unrestricted reserves to support the charity's ongoing activities. At the year end unrestricted funds were £10.

Trustees, volunteers and self-employed contractors

The trustees met during the year, primarily online, to oversee the governance, activities, and financial management of the charity. Decisions were made collectively in accordance with the charity's constitution, and the trustees ensured that the charity operated in furtherance of its charitable objectives and in compliance with regulatory requirements.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Signed _____ Date: 10th August 2024

Catherine Higney

Neurotastic - Registered Charity Number 1196698**Statement of financial activities for the year ended 5 April 2024**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2024	Total funds 2023
			£	£
Receipts and Payments:				
Income Receipts				
Funding loan from trustee	333	0	333	304
Direct Charitable Payments				
National Lottery Grant	0	9904	9904	0
Net (payments)/receipts	333	9904	10237	304
Bank Balance 5/4/2024			6145	
EXPENDITURE Charitable activities				
Computer software		179	179	0
Computer hardware		1668	1668	0
Website and online fees		204	204	179
Printing		163	163	0
Stationery		50	50	0
Office supplies		141	141	0
Professional fees		148	148	0
Books and journals		273	273	0
Survey		498	498	0
Staff training		654	654	0
Insurance	67	48	115	112
Total payments	266	4026	4093	291
Net of receipts/(payments)			6144	13
Statement of Assets and Liabilities				
Monetary Assets				
NatWest Bank Account			0	0
Liabilities				
Total Loan from Trustee (Note 2)	-1124		-1124	-804
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			5033	-791
NET ASSETS	-1124		5024	-791

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2024	Total funds 2023
			£	£
FUNDS				
Restricted funds			6144	0
Unrestricted funds			-1124	-791
TOTAL FUNDS			5020	-791

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the organisation by:

Trustee (Treasurer) _____

Print Name: Justine Harris

Dated _____

Trustee _____

Print Name: Kate Higney

Dated _____

Notes to the account for the year ended 5 April 2024

1. Income and expenditure accounts

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due. Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Accounts are from 5 April 2023 until 5 April 2024.

2. Grants, Donations and Loans

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Loans	333	0	333	304
Grants	0	9904	9904	0
Total	333	9904	10237	304

The loan from the trustee is interest free and repayable on demand once the CIO has generated sufficient funds to permit repayment. No guarantees have been given by the CIO. No debts owed by the CIO have been secured on any of the CIO's assets.

3. Designated funds

There were no designated funds during the year ended 5 April 2024.

4. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. We received £9904 restricted funds from the National Lottery for the year ended 5 April 2024 for the projects we carried out.

5. Trustee members remuneration

No trustees received expenses during the financial year. An individual trustee loaned £333 interest free (2021 £500; 2022 £304; 2023 £333). No other payments other than those shown in this note were paid to trustees.

6. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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. Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

7. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Growing Different

England & Wales - Charity number 1196698

Accounts

Registered charity number 1196698



**Annual Report and Unaudited Financial statements
for the year ended 5 April 2023 for Neurotastic**

Page Contents

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 5 April 2023	3
Trustees annual report for the year ended 5 April 2023	4
Statement of financial activities for the year ended 5 April 2023	5
Notes to the account for the year ended 5 April 2023	7

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 5 April 2023

Main address

Allia Future Business Centre,
Kings Hedges Road,
Cambridge
CB4 2HY

Trustee members

Justine Harris
Andy Matthews
Catherine Higney

Independent examination of accounts

Not required, turnover under £25,000

Governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by its constitution and registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, number 1196698. The trustees are responsible for the overall management and control of the charity. The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Trustees annual report for the year ended 5 April 2023

Aims and objectives

The charity's aim is to advance understanding of neurodevelopmental differences and neurodiversity, and to improve access to clear, evidence-informed information and support. It seeks to do this through education, research dissemination, and the development of practical resources for individuals, families, and those who support them, in order to promote inclusion, wellbeing, and informed decision-making.

Achievements to date

During the year, the charity developed and published online resources relating to neurodevelopmental conditions and neurodiversity, and delivered educational content aimed at improving understanding and access to support. Activities were carried out in furtherance of the charity's objects.

Thank you to our supporters

Neurotastic would like to thank all of the people who have supported us through their time, advice or donations. We appreciate this and could not exist without it.

Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain modest unrestricted reserves to support the charity's ongoing activities. At the year end unrestricted funds were £10.

Trustees, volunteers and self-employed contractors

The trustees met during the year, primarily online, to oversee the governance, activities, and financial management of the charity. Decisions were made collectively in accordance with the charity's constitution, and the trustees ensured that the charity operated in furtherance of its charitable objectives and in compliance with regulatory requirements.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Signed _____ Date: 15th June 2023
Catherine Higney

Neurotastic - Registered Charity Number 1196698**Statement of financial activities for the year ended 5 April 2023**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2022	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Receipts and Payments:				
Income Receipts				
Funding loan from trustee	804	0	304	500
Direct Charitable Payments				
No payments in this period	0	0	0	0
Net (payments)/receipts	10	-	10	0
Bank Balance 5/4/2023				
EXPENDITURE				
Charitable activities				
Website and online fees	-	-	179	241
Professional memberships	-	-		102
Royal Mail PO Box				109
Insurance	-	-	112	48
Total payments	794	0	294	500
Statement of Assets and Liabilities				
Monetary Assets				
NatWest Bank Account	10			
Liabilities				
Loan from Trustee (Note 2)	804		304	500
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	-794		-794	-500
NET ASSETS	-794		-794	-500
FUNDS				
Restricted funds	0		0	0
Unrestricted funds	10		10	0
TOTAL FUNDS	10		10	0

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the organisation by:

Trustee (Treasurer) _____

Print Name: Justine Harris

Dated _____

Trustee _____

Print Name: Kate Higney

Dated _____

Notes to the account for the year ended 5 April 2023

1. Income and expenditure accounts

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due. Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Accounts are from when the CIO was registered, 22 November 2021 until 5 April 2023.

2. Grants, Donations and Loans

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Loans	804	0	304	500
Grants	0	0	0	0
Total	804	0	304	500

The loan from the trustee is interest free and repayable on demand once the CIO has generated sufficient funds to permit repayment. No guarantees have been given by the CIO. No debts owed by the CIO have been secured on any of the CIO's assets.

3. Designated funds

There were no designated funds during the year ended 5 April 2023.

4. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. There were no restricted funds during the year ended 5 April 2023.

5. Trustee members remuneration

No trustees received expenses during the financial year. An individual trustee loaned £804 interest free (2021 £500; 2022 £304). No other payments other than those shown in this note were paid to trustees.

6. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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. Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

7. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.