

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE027955 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1197526

**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**  
**for**  
**TOPIC HEROES**

Elsby & Co  
155 Wellingborough Road  
Rushden  
Northamptonshire  
NN10 9TB

**TOPIC HEROES**

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**for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2024**

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## **TOPIC HEROES**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2024**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and aims**

Topic Heroes is an exciting way to capture creativity, ignite the imagination and engage children with writing through topic-based learning. A learning adventure like no other, it starts online and finishes on the bookshelf.

Topic Heroes® has been developed with leading literacy academics in-line with National Curriculum and offers a wide range of topics to choose from such as Monsters, Sport, Healthy Eating, Victorians, Climate Change and much more. A flexible learning resource, Topic Heroes® offers a great range of writing genres including newspaper article, poem, postcard, chronological report and autobiography. There is something to inspire and ignite every child's love for learning. Children can have so much fun on their topic learning journey. Creative topic templates are easy to use and come with cool graphics and images to choose from. Children can even upload their own images to help make pages their own.

The brilliant thing about Topic Heroes® is that every child that completes a topic is rewarded for their hard work with their very own professionally printed and personalised topic book to enjoy and share with friends and family. A physical book offers more impact, more variety, promotes sharing with others and creates lasting memories to be kept at school or at home. Most importantly, it connects with children emotionally and is a powerful way to celebrate their achievement.

The drive for our mission is based on a few reasons. People without basic literacy skills face poorer health outcomes, welfare dependency and little social cohesion. Lack of creative resources has been cited as one reason for current poor literacy attainment. 380,000 children in the UK don't own a book.

Our mission is to provide Topic Heroes® free to every primary school aged child in the UK. We believe in igniting the joy of writing and unleashing the creativity and talent of young minds that last into adulthood.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Company number**

CE027955 (England and Wales)

##### **Registered Charity number**

1197526

##### **Registered office**

17 London House  
Swinfens Yard  
High Street  
Stony Stratford  
Buckinghamshire  
MK11 1SY

**TOPIC HEROES**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2024**

**Trustees**

L Swanston  
I Swanston  
M Stefani  
R M Pepper

**Company Secretary**

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Swanston', with a stylized, looped initial 'L'.

L Swanston - Trustee

**TOPIC HEROES**

**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted fund £	2023 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies		-	2,596
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds		-	300
Other		1,353	-
<b>Total</b>		1,353	300
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(1,353)	2,296
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		2,296	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		943	2,296

The notes form part of these financial statements

**TOPIC HEROES**

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 AUGUST 2024**

		2024 Unrestricted fund £	2023 Total funds £
	Notes		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank		2,296	2,296
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	4	(1,353)	-
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		943	2,296
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		943	2,296
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		943	2,296
<b>FUNDS</b>	5		
Unrestricted funds		943	2,296
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		943	2,296

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 August 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

**TOPIC HEROES**

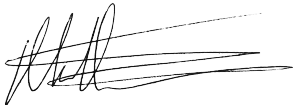
**Balance Sheet - continued**

**31 AUGUST 2024**

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28 March 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

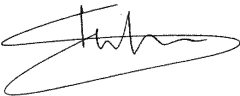
R M Pepper - Trustee



M Stefani - Trustee



I Swanston - Trustee



L Swanston - Trustee



**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2024**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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 Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**Income**

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.

**Expenditure**

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. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2024 nor for the year ended 31 August 2023.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2024 nor for the year ended 31 August 2023.



**TOPIC HEROES**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2024**

**3. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	
Donations and legacies	2,596
	<hr/>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>	
Raising funds	300
	<hr/>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	2,296
	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	2,296
	<hr/> <hr/>

**4. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	1,224	-
Nutshell Creative intercompany	129	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,353	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.9.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	2,296	(1,353)	943
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	2,296	(1,353)	943
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	-	(1,353)	(1,353)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	-	(1,353)	(1,353)
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2024**

**5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.9.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	-	2,296	2,296
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	-	2,296	2,296
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	2,596	(300)	2,296
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	2,596	(300)	2,296
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.9.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	-	943	943
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	-	943	943
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	2,596	(1,653)	943
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	2,596	(1,653)	943
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**TOPIC HEROES**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2024**

**6. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 August 2024.

**TOPIC HEROES**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2024**

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	-	2,596
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	-	2,596
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Management</b>		
Postage and stationery	129	-
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy and legal fees	1,224	300
<b>Total resources expended</b>	1,353	300
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>	(1,353)	2,296