



UK Registered Charity:1197965

## **The Abilities in Me Foundation**

**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements  
For the period 17th February 2022 - 6th April 2023**



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## **Legal and Administrative Details**

Charity number: 1197965

Registered Address: 251 Wisden Road, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 5NR.

Bank: Lloyds Bank PLC, 25 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7HN

Trustees: Treasurer: Melanie Lusty (appointed 31/05/2021)

Secretary: Emma Lusty (appointed 31/05/2021)

Chairman: Max Keir (appointed 31/05/2021)

Claire Bunyan (31/05/2021 - 31/10/2022)

Chloe Rose-Bradbury (04/04/2022 - 31/08/2022)

Nicholas Dunn (04/04/2022 - 17/02/2023)

Kerry Mitchell (04/04/2022 - 31/08/2022)



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## **Trustees' Report**

**For the period: 17th February 2022 – 6th April 2023**

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period ending April 6th 2023.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Charity was formed on 17th February 2022 and is a Registered Charity, Number 1197965. The Charity is managed by the Trustees in accordance with its constitution. None of the Trustees receives remuneration from the Charity.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Abilities in Me Foundation aims to raise awareness of special educational needs and conditions that children may encounter. The objectives of our CIO are:

- 1. Advancing education for the public benefit of children in all areas relating to disabilities and inclusion through 'The abilities inclusive workshop training' and 'school visits'.*
- 2. Relieving the needs of children with a disability and special educational needs by creating an inclusive 'safe space' through the provision of sensory items, equipment, sensory room makeovers to mainstream educational environments.*





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3. *To promote and protect the physical and mental health of children with disabilities by providing support, education and practical advice to help them understand their condition or diagnosis and assisting families with support networks.*
4. *To advance such charitable purposes (according to the law of England and Wales) as the trustees see fit from time to time, including raising funds, providing grants, donating books into hospital settings and providing specialist equipment and family fun days for families in need.*

### **Achievements and Performance**

The Abilities in Me Foundation is a Hertfordshire based charity and our goals are to work with schools by providing inclusive workshops, to donate books to hospitals, and to support families who have children with needs by building an Abilities community through activities and online events. The charity was formed following the success of The Abilities in Me Book Series and with the passion to support families with children of all abilities.





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The families we support have young children with a range of needs and conditions but we also welcome all families to attend our events where possible to help break down the barriers and keep building a positive message around inclusion. We also help to support families around the globe by providing a much needed space for families to connect through our online social media platforms.

In our first year of activity we have focussed on our family networking and educational objectives. In the first instance we supported a large number of local families by offering free to low-cost face-to-face activities and events. This helped to raise awareness of our name and our charity mission with the aim of being able to work towards delivering more of our aims and objectives in our second and following years.



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As we had no funding or donations at the very start of our charity journey we were lucky enough to be financially supported by the Abilities in Me Book Series team to enable us to host some major outdoor summer events. These included a Teddy Bears Picnic, a Royal Jubilee Party, and a Family Funday which helped us to engage over 600 beneficiaries in our local community. The family days all featured external vendors, bouncy castles, ice cream, soft play and crafts. We were helped to make these events possible with the dedication of a strong team of local volunteers, who enthusiastically supported and assisted at each event. As a result, these events helped us to kickstart our own fundraising activity, raise awareness of our mission and also enabled us to host our first Christmas party for families.

We are funded purely by donations from the kind public and organisations and through donations from sales of the The Abilities in Me Book Series. In addition, we were proudly selected by our local Tesco store to receive over £2000 worth of toys to give as presents to the children from Santa Claus at the party.





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Later in the year the foundation also decided to take over the financial responsibility for the production of future books of the Abilities in Me Book series. Discounted book sales to educators and hospital settings along with online profits from the book series sales received during our first year meant we were able to allocate funds for the development of two more Abilities in Me Books.

At the Abilities in Me, we want all children, regardless of their barriers to feel accepted and understood. We want to encourage kindness, reduce bullying and empower all children to be included.





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## **Trustees' Report for the period 17th February 2022 - 6th April 2023 continued**

### **Financial review**

The Financial results for the year are detailed in the financial statements. The Charity is trying to maintain reserves so we can extend the reach and scope of the work that the charity does for its beneficiaries.

### **Statement of Trustees Responsibilities**

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- c) Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- d) State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- e) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the CIO will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the CIO's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the CIO 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 constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of The CIO and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporation and financial information included on the CIO's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

  
Emma Lusty - Secretary

  
Melanie Lusty - Treasurer

**Date: 30th January 2024**



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## Statement of Financial Activities

For the period of 17th February 2022 – 6th April 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2022/23 total
	Note	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>				
Donations and grants	2	1,733.73	-	1,733.73
Trading activities	3	21,092.19	-	21,092.19
<b>Total income</b>		<b>22,825.92</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,825.92</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds	4	2,886.14	-	2,886.14
Charitable activities	5,6	5,578.84	-	5,578.84
Running costs	7	5,162.61		5,162.84
<b>Total expenditure:</b>		<b>13,627.59</b>		<b>13,627.59</b>
Net income for the year		9,198.33	-	9,198.33
Net movement in funds		9,198.33	-	9,198.33
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		-	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>9,198.33</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,198.33</b>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 14 to the financial statements. The notes set out on pages 15 to 19 form part of these accounts.





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### Balance Sheet - As at 6th April 2023

		Feb 2022- Apr 2023 Total
	Note	£
Fixed Assets	9	0
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash at bank and in hand		9,198.33
Debtors	10	0
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	0
Net current assets	12	9198.33
Total assets less current liabilities		0
Net assets	12	9,198.33
<b>The funds of the charity</b>		
Restricted income funds	13	-
Unrestricted income funds	13	9,198.33
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<b>£9,198.33</b>

The financial statements were approved and authorised by issue by the Board on 30th January 2024.

Signed on behalf of the Board of the Trustees

Emma Lusty Secretary

Melanie Lusty Treasurer





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## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 6th April 2023.**

### **1. Accounting Policies**

#### **a) Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. The requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, 'accounting and reporting by charities' (SORP 2015), in accordance with the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) applicable to smaller entities and the Charities Act 2011. The presentational currency of the financial statements is pound sterling (£).

The charity is a Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission. The registered office address is given in the charity information page.

Assets, and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

#### **b) Public Benefit Entity**

The CIO meets the definition of a public entity under FRS 102.



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### **c) Going Concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the CIO's ability to continue as a going concern. Further details are provided in the Trustees' report.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

### **d) Income**

Income is received by way of donations and fundraising is also generated through trading activities. Income is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities, recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and that the amount can be measured reliably.

### **e) Expenditure and allocation of support costs**

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred resources. Expended include attributable VAT, which cannot be recovered.



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Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to the activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration on each activity comprising general office costs and other overheads is apportioned on a basis, which is estimated based on the proportion of each activity to the total cost of all activities.

#### **f) Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes and are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the CIO.

In the financial period of 17th February 2022 to 6th April 2023, there have been no restricted funds to report on.

#### **g) Creditors**

Creditors and provision are recognised where 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.





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## h) Financial Instruments

The CIO has only basic 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.

### 2. Income from donations

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022/2023 Total
	£	£	£
Donations - cash and online	1,733.73	-	1,733.73
Total:	£1,733.73	£ -	£1733.73

### 3. Income from trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022/2023 Total
	£	£	£
Amazon Direct Book sales	19,108.82	-	19,108.82
School/Hospital Book Sales	1,610.76	-	1,610.76
Christmas party ticket sales	372.61	-	372.61
Total:	£21,092.19	£-	£21,092.19





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#### 4. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022/2023 Total
	£	£	£
Supplier costs for events	906.07	-	906.07
Cost of books bought to be sold and donated	1,980.07	-	1,980.07
Total:	£2,886.14	£-	£2,886.14

#### 5. Costs of charitable activity by type

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022/2023 Total
	£	£	£
Provision of the Christmas party	1,640.52	-	1640.52
Total:	£1,640.52	£-	£1640.52



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## 6. Costs of charitable activity by type

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022/2023 Total
	£	£	£
Production of Abilities Books	3,938.32	-	3,938.32
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£3,938.32</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£3,938.32</b>

## 7. Analysis of support costs

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022/2023 Total
	£	£	£
Trustees/Volunteers expenses	120.52	-	120.52
Office expenses	£3,464.86	-	3,436.26
Insurance	96.00	-	96.00
Website	384.56	-	384.56
Storage	238.06	-	238.06
Training	555.92	-	555.92
Volunteers' Thank you Party	302.69	-	302.69
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£5162.61</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£5,162.61</b>



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9. Fixed Assets - Nothing purchased as a fixed asset in year 1.

10. Debtors - Nothing to report

11. Creditors falling due within one year - Nothing to report



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## 12. Analysis of net assets

	Tangible fixed assets	Net current assets	2022/2023 Total
	£	£	£
Restricted funds	-	-	-
Unrestricted funds	-	9,198.33	9,198.33
Total	-	9,198.33	9,198.33

## 13. Movement in funds

	Balance brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Balance carried forward at xx April 2023
Restricted funds	-	-	(-)	(-)
Unrestricted funds	-	£22,825.92	(£13,627.59)	£9,198.33
Total:	-	£22,825.92	(£13,627.59)	£9,198.33

## 14. Related parties

No Trustees received any remuneration during the period.

1 Trustee received expenses during the period, totalling £ 120.52