

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
1 AUGUST 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025

FOR

DYSLEXIA MATTERS CHARITY**

Duncan & Toplis Limited
14 All Saints Street
Stamford
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DYSLEXIA MATTERS CHARITY

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FOR THE PERIOD 1 AUGUST 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025

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Dyslexia Matters Charity

Trustees' Report



Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Registration Number	1207398
Registered Office	Blackhorse Cottage, Southill Road, Bedfordshire, SG18 9LA
Trustees	Annelize Alfredo Darryl Hazelhurst-Jeavons Anita Laws Julie Smith
Chief Executive Officer	Julia Hewerdine
Chief Operating Officer	James Avis
Chief Training Officer	Elizabeth Blackburn
Accountancy & Independent Examiners	Duncan & Toplis

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Dyslexia Matters Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), constituted under the Foundation model and registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. The Charity is governed by its constitution, adopted on incorporation, which sets out its charitable objects, the powers of the trustees, and the rules by which the Charity is administered.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The board of trustees is responsible for the governance and strategic direction of the Charity. New trustees are appointed by resolution of the existing board, with appointments based on the skills, knowledge and experience considered most beneficial to the Charity at the time. Under the terms of the constitution, the first trustees were appointed for varying initial terms to ensure continuity of the board, after which trustees serve three-year terms and may be reappointed. No external body holds the right to appoint trustees.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees are provided with an introduction to the Charity's objects, activities, finances and governance responsibilities. They are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the Charity Commission's guidance for trustees and to draw on the collective experience of the board.

Management of the Charity

The board of trustees meets three times a year to review the Charity's performance, finances and strategic direction. The day-to-day management of the Charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, Julia Hewerdine, who is supported by the Chief Operating Officer, James Avis, and the Chief Training Officer, Elizabeth Blackburn. The remuneration of the key management personnel is set by the trustees having regard to the responsibilities of each role and the resources of the Charity.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable purposes

The objects of Dyslexia Matters Charity, as set out in its constitution, are the advancement of education of people with dyslexia, specific learning differences and associated barriers to literacy, and the education of the public and professionals about dyslexia and specific learning differences, primarily through the provision of training.

Our mission and what drives us

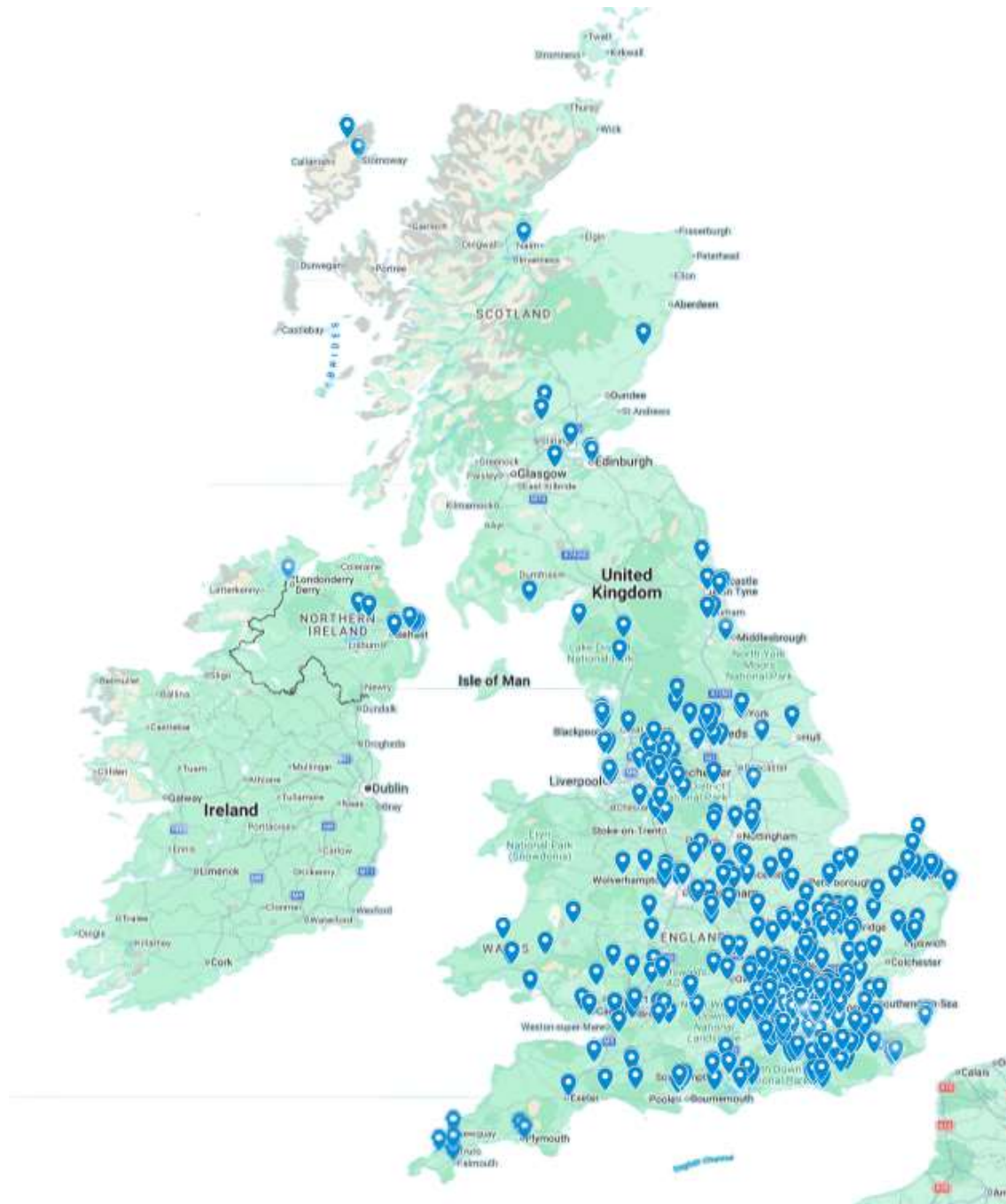
Dyslexia Matters Charity was founded by Julia Hewerdine and Elizabeth Blackburn, both of whom have spent their careers working with learners with dyslexia and specific learning differences, including as founding headteachers of a specialist school. Their experience taught them that the difference between a learner who struggles and one who thrives often comes down to whether the right person is in the room: a practitioner who truly understands dyslexia, who has the skills to adapt their teaching, and who has the confidence to put that knowledge to work.

That conviction sits at the heart of everything the Charity does. Across the trustees, the leadership team and the wider staff, there is a shared and genuine passion for dyslexia and specific learning differences (SpLDs), and for the profound difference that well-trained, well-supported practitioners can make to the daily lives of learners. Seeing candidates grow in knowledge and confidence, and knowing that their learners are benefiting as a result, is what makes the work worthwhile.

Public benefit

Research consistently indicates that dyslexia affects between 10 and 15 percent of the population, yet access to well-trained specialist practitioners remains unevenly distributed. Geographical location, cost and the availability of suitably qualified professionals all present real barriers to the learners who need support most.

The Charity addresses this directly by training specialist practitioners to the highest professional standards, and making its programmes accessible to candidates regardless of where they are in the country. Each practitioner who qualifies through Dyslexia Matters Charity can go on to support learners directly, multiplying the impact of the Charity's work far beyond its own immediate reach. The trustees are satisfied that the Charity's activities continue to deliver clear public benefit in accordance with the Charity Commission's guidance.



Main activities

The Charity's principal activities during the year were the delivery of specialist professional training programmes for practitioners working with those with dyslexia and SpLDs, and the provision of bespoke training for schools and other organisations. All qualifications are delivered remotely, ensuring that geographical location presents no barrier to either candidates or the learners they will go on to support.

The Charity also delivers a small number of shorter award programmes, including at Level 2 and Level 3, providing introductory pathways into dyslexia awareness and specialist support for practitioners earlier in their professional journey.

Achievements and Performance

Level 5 Diploma in Teaching Learners with Dyslexia, Specific Learning Differences and Barriers to Literacy

The Level 5 Diploma remains the Charity's flagship programme, recognised by The SpLD Assessment Standards Committee (SASC), the British Dyslexia Association (BDA) and Professional Association of Teachers of Students with Specific Learning Difficulties (PATOSS). The twelve-month course equips candidates with the skills to assess, plan, deliver and review specialist teaching programmes for learners of all ages, with a deliberately practical rather than essay-driven approach. Cohort sizes are intentionally kept small to ensure each candidate receives close individual support from both a dedicated assessor and a second specialist tutor throughout their studies. Our courses have been revised and updated, reflecting research and emerging evidence, including the new definition of dyslexia as well as the new report format and guidance from SASC.

During the year, four cohorts completed or were underway. Candidates come from a wide range of professional and personal backgrounds, including teachers, teaching assistants, SENCOs, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, and parents of children with SpLD who wanted to turn their own experience into meaningful change for others. Not all of those who train with the Charity come from a teaching background; for many, the Level 5 Diploma represents a deliberate career change driven by a desire to make a difference.

The programme is delivered entirely online, enabling candidates from across the country to participate without the need to travel. During the year, candidates studied with the Charity from as far afield as Cornwall and Scotland, both ends of the country, a reflection of a training gap that exists nationwide and that geography alone should not prevent anyone from filling.

"I have valued the course enormously, and the support and professionalism of the Dyslexia Matters team has been a significant part of that experience."

- Candidate

The quality of the Charity's training provision has been consistently recognised by external awarding bodies, who highlighted the standard of candidate portfolios and the depth of assessor feedback as particular strengths.

“Learners are well supported at this centre. I have seen excellent online provision that provides them with up-to-date information. They receive tutorials, supervision and buddy support. The information about each assignment is detailed and clear. The resources that are used are current and have been carefully chosen.”

- Gateway Qualifications (Awarding body)

The reach and impact of our trained practitioners

The Charity's impact does not end when a candidate completes their course. In many ways, it is only just beginning. Each of the 40 or more specialist teachers trained during the year is now equipped to deliver specialist teaching support to learners in their community. If each of those practitioners delivers just five hours of specialist teaching per week across a 39-week year, the Charity's training translates into over 7,800 hours of specialist support flowing into schools, homes and other settings across the country, as a direct result of its work during this period alone.

“Dyslexia Matters Charity truly embodies what it sets out in its constitution. The courses are accessible, multi-sensory, cumulative and based on research of specific learning differences, most importantly, dyslexia. Students of all neurodiversities are welcome, with a strong support structure in place to support them and innovative ideas to ensure they meet the high standards of the qualification. This means that a wide audience is captured and trained to then support those in education, work or the family setting who are struggling with dyslexia and help them meet their true potential.

Being a neurodiverse learner myself, working with such an amazing, inclusive and supportive charity makes every day worthwhile”

- Dyslexia Matters Employee

At Level 7, the Charity trained over 20 specialist assessors during the year. If each of those assessors carries out just one to two assessments per week across a 39-week period, the cohort as a whole has the collective capacity to deliver between 780 and 1,560 Diagnostic Assessment Reports. Reports that can open the door to formal recognition, appropriate support and, in many cases, answers that individuals and their families have been waiting years to receive.

Behind each hour of teaching and each assessment is a learner, a child, a young person, or an adult, whose life may be meaningfully changed as a result.

The Charity also continued to support its specialist community beyond initial qualification through its CPD Alumni programme, providing former candidates with opportunities to remain connected, deepen their practice and keep pace with developments in the field. These sessions created an ongoing professional network in which specialist teachers and assessors could share experience, reflect on challenges and build confidence in their work, while also helping to sustain high standards of practice across the wider dyslexia community.

The Charity is committed to making its programmes accessible and, in certain circumstances, offers reduced fees to candidates who might not otherwise be able to participate, including through the Elizabeth Blackburn Grant.

Level 7 Diploma in Specialist Assessment of Dyslexia and Specific Learning Differences

The Level 7 Diploma is an advanced qualification for those wishing to carry out formal diagnostic assessments of dyslexia and specific learning differences. Candidates who successfully complete the course are awarded an Assessment Practising Certificate (APC) by the SpLD Assessment Standards Committee (SASC), enabling them to conduct assessments and produce Diagnostic Assessment Reports.

Two cohorts studied at Level 7 during the year. A notable feature of the year's intake was that many candidates progressing to Level 7 had previously completed their Level 5 Diploma with the Charity. This progression from specialist teacher to specialist assessor is something the Charity is proud to see and serves as a strong indicator both of the quality of the foundation the Level 5 course provides and of the trust that candidates place in the Charity's approach to training.

Organisational training

The Charity also delivered bespoke training to schools and workplaces during the year, primarily through INSET day provision. This work supports teaching staff in understanding dyslexia and developing practical classroom strategies, benefiting whole school communities rather than individual learners alone.

Factors affecting performance

The year presented a broadly positive picture, with strong demand across both diploma programmes and high levels of satisfaction amongst candidates. The Charity is aware, however, of the pressures facing schools and other educational settings, where tightening budgets and funding constraints are making it harder for some candidates to secure employer support or study leave. This is a trend the trustees are monitoring carefully.

The publication in February 2025 of a new consensus definition of dyslexia, following the Delphi Study led by Dr Julia Carroll and supported by SASC, represents a significant and welcome development for the field. The Charity continues to review its course content in light of this and regards it as an opportunity to ensure its training remains at the cutting

edge of evidence and professional standards. The trustees do not anticipate material additional cost from this work but will continue to monitor the position.

Plans for the Future

The trustees' ambition for the Charity is straightforward: to continue training the next generation of specialist dyslexia practitioners to the very highest standard, and to ensure that the quality and relevance of the Charity's courses only improves with time. The Charity will continue to refine and develop its programmes in response to changes in the field, in government policy and in the needs of learners, treating each shift in the landscape as an opportunity to get even better.

Alongside its training work, the Charity intends to increase its efforts to raise awareness of dyslexia and other specific learning differences more broadly. The trustees believe that awareness and early identification are vital to improving outcomes, and that the Charity has a role to play beyond its course provision in educating the public, professionals and employers about what dyslexia is and what good support looks like.

The Charity has already touched many lives positively through its work, and the trustees are conscious that this is still the beginning. The pipeline of practitioners trained by Dyslexia Matters Charity is growing, and with it the number of learners across the country who have access to someone who truly understands their needs. That is the impact the Charity was created to have and one the trustees are committed to extending year on year.

The coming year will not be without challenge. Continued pressure on school budgets is likely to affect the ability of some candidates to fund their studies, and the Charity will continue to explore how it can support access wherever possible. Changes to government legislation on SEND and neurodiversity, alongside the wider adoption of the new dyslexia definition, will also require the Charity to remain agile and responsive. The trustees are confident that the strength of the Charity's training model and the commitment of its team place it in a strong position to navigate these changes and emerge from them better than before.

Financial Review

Financial position

The Charity's income for the year ended was £340,017 with £98,988 in unrestricted funds at year end.

Income is derived primarily from course fees for the Level 5 and Level 7 Diploma programmes, supplemented by fees for organisational training and other shorter courses. The Charity works to ensure its courses remain accessible and payment by instalments is available for candidates who would otherwise not be able to access the course.

Reserves

The Charity does not hold any restricted funds.

The Charity was established recently and, in this early period of operation, the trustees have not yet adopted a formal reserves policy. They review the Charity's financial position at each board meeting and are satisfied that the current level of funds is sufficient to meet the Charity's commitments and to provide reasonable resilience against unforeseen disruption. It is the trustees' intention to formalise a reserves policy following the next financial year, once the Charity's income and expenditure patterns are more fully established.

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Post-balance sheet events

In February 2025, following the year-end, the Dyslexia Delphi Study published a new consensus definition of dyslexia. The Charity continues to review its course materials in light of this development. The trustees do not anticipate that this will give rise to material additional expenditure.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and 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 those 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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. 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.

Compliance Statement

The trustees confirm that the Charity complies with all relevant legislation and regulation, including the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The Charity’s financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP and the trustees are not aware of any significant departures from that standard.

In preparing this report, the trustees have had regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission, including its guidance on public benefit, and confirm that they are satisfied that the Charity’s activities continue to advance its charitable objects for the public benefit.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:
MR D HAZELHURST-JEAVONS
1E7C64F08C674FD...

.....

Darryl Hazelhurst-Jeavons
Trustee
28-Apr-26 | 09:42 BST
Date:

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
DYSLEXIA MATTERS CHARITY**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Dyslexia Matters Charity

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Dyslexia Matters Charity (CIO) for the period 1 August 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 CIO as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts 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 accounts 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 accounts to be reached.

Signed by:

6B7D073AF809432...

Niall Kingsley FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Duncan & Toplis Limited
14 All Saints Street
Stamford
Lincolnshire
PE9 2PA

29-Apr-26 | 14:53 BST

Date:

DYSLEXIA MATTERS CHARITY

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD 1 AUGUST 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM		
Donations and legacies	3	10,000
Charitable activities		
Charitable activities		330,017
Total		<u>340,017</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON		
Charitable activities		
Charitable activities		227,647
Other		13,382
Total		<u>241,029</u>
 NET INCOME		 98,988
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		 <u><u>98,988</u></u>

DYSLEXIA MATTERS CHARITY

BALANCE SHEET
30 JUNE 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	7	32,694
Cash at bank		89,597
		122,291
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(23,303)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		98,988
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		98,988
NET ASSETS		98,988
FUNDS	9	
Unrestricted funds		98,988
TOTAL FUNDS		98,988

28-Apr-26 | 09:42 BST

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

DocuSigned by:
MR D HAZELHURST-JEAVONS
.....1F7C84F08C874FD.....
D Hazelhurst-Jeavons - Trustee

DYSLEXIA MATTERS CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 AUGUST 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Dyslexia Matters Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England and Wales, whose only voting members are its trustees. The charity's registered number is 1207398. The principal place of business is Black Horse Cottage, Southill Road, Broom, Biggleswade, SG18 9LA.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and are rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these accounts are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements cover the individual entity.

The entity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

There are no material uncertainties relating to going concern.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant version of the 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) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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 the relevant version of the 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) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

This charity is newly formed, with this representing its first period of accounts.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charitable company's accounting policies, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates 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 ongoing 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 the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no critical accounting judgements or estimation uncertainty that, in the opinion of the trustees, will have a material effect on the financial statements.

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.

Donations are recognised when they are received and income received from charitable courses is recognised upon provision of services.

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 tax on its charitable activities.

DYSLEXIA MATTERS CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 AUGUST 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

Included in donations is £10,000 received from Dyslexia Matters Limited which was dissolved upon formation of the CIO that took over the operations as a registered charity.

4. SUPPORT COSTS

	Other £
Other resources expended	12,833

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	Other resources expended £
Insurance	1,524
Telephone	183
Postage and stationery	6
Bank charges	1,628
Legal and professional	9,308
Advertising	184
	12,833

DYSLEXIA MATTERS CHARITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 AUGUST 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025****5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 30 June 2025.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 30 June 2025.

6. STAFF COSTS

	£
Wages and salaries	111,315
Social security costs	788
Other pension costs	21,230
	<u>133,333</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the period was as follows:

Average employees	<u>6</u>
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No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Between three key management personnel, total remuneration and benefits were £79,024.

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	£
Trade debtors	<u>32,694</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	£
Trade creditors	2,445
Social security and other taxes	10,755
Pension	4,347
Accrued expenses	4,842
Deferred income	914
	<u>23,303</u>

Deferred income is in respect of monies received in advance relating to the charities trading activities.

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Net movement in funds £	At 30.6.25 £
Unrestricted funds		
General fund	98,988	98,988
	<u>98,988</u>	<u>98,988</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>98,988</u>	<u>98,988</u>

DYSLEXIA MATTERS CHARITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 AUGUST 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025****9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	340,017	(241,029)	98,988
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>340,017</u>	<u>(241,029)</u>	<u>98,988</u>

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 30 June 2025.

11. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

Independent examination	2,400
Other financial services	6,019
	<u>8,419</u>