

Company Registration Number: 00395548
Charity in England Number: 313082
Charity in Scotland Number: SC039472

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025

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THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS
TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Trustees | Nicola Theobald (Chair) Heather Lomas (Vice Chair) (until April 2025) Chris Sharpe (Treasurer from November 2024) John Tuck (Treasurer until November 2024) Becky Cook (until November 2024) Nicola Demetriadi Elaina Eakers Andrina Flinders (until November 2024) Julia Henderson Tim Hopkins Sian Hudson Myra McRobbie (from November 2024) Maureen Mathieson (until November 2024) Nazma Meah (from November 2024 to May 2025) Lisa Sharkey Glenda Tinney | |
| Company Registered Number | 00395548 | |
| Charity Registered Number | Registered charity No. 313082 Charity registered in Scotland No. SC039472 | |
| Registered office | 2 Victoria Square Victoria Street St Albans Hertfordshire AL1 3TF | |
| President | Professor Emeritus Dame Cathy Nutbrown | |
| Chief Executive & Company Secretary | Beatrice Merrick | |
| Independent Examiner | Eva Stevens, employee of Community Accounting Plus Units 1 & 2 North West 41 Talbot Street Nottingham NG1 5GL | |
| Bankers | Lloyds Bank PLC 180-182 High Street Walthamstow London E17 7JH | Unity Trust Bank Nine Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB |

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Chair's Introduction

This year has brought both challenges and opportunities as we continue to champion the vital role of high-quality early education. The early years shape children's futures, and we remain committed to ensuring that every child has the chance to benefit from the very best start in life, supported by skilled professionals and strong settings.

A core focus of our work has been supporting and strengthening the early years workforce. High-quality provision is only possible when skilled, dedicated professionals are valued and sustained. Through our training, advocacy, and partnership work, we have sought to give practitioners the tools, recognition and support they deserve. The resilience and commitment shown by staff across the sector continues to inspire us.

Building our reach and impact remains a priority, and our membership sits at the heart of this effort. Members provide both a strong voice for the sector and a vital connection to the realities of practice. We are proud to retain a strong core of highly committed members who value their membership deeply. Our branches play a key role in fostering grass-roots engagement and providing forums for discussion, learning and feedback. We will continue to invest in this area, supporting local networks to ensure that our membership continues to be a vibrant and engaged community.

As a charity with a UK-wide mission, we are committed to championing early education across all four nations. We recognise the unique contexts and challenges faced in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and we are working to ensure that our research, advocacy and support reflect the diversity and strengths of each nation. Strengthening our presence and partnerships across the UK is central to our long-term vision of equitable, high-quality early education for every child, wherever they live.

Alongside this, our development projects, including The SPACE to Flourish programme and The Family Music Hub initiative, have expanded our capacity and influence. We are pleased that the Nuffield Foundation has funded our comparative study of the early years' workforce across the four UK nations - a timely, highly relevant research project which will issue its final report in November 2025.

Our flagship publication, Birth to 5 Matters, continues to play a central role in supporting principled, child-centred practice. As a sector-led guidance document, it embodies our commitment to values-based, evidence-informed pedagogy. We are excited to be working in partnership with the Early Years Coalition to undertake a comprehensive review of the document in 2025-26.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our Chief Executive and our staff team. Their expertise, passion and hard work drive forward our mission every day. On behalf of the Board, I extend heartfelt thanks to them all. I also wish to thank our trustees, supporters and partners, whose shared commitment enables us to amplify our voice and impact.

Looking ahead, we remain confident in the difference that high-quality early education makes to children and families, and we look forward to building on our progress and working together to secure the best possible start in life for every child—across all four nations of the UK.

Nicola Theobald
Chair of Trustees

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (continued)

The Board of Trustees, who are the directors and trustees of the charity, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 which also contains the directors' report as required by company law.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered charity. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 18/05/1945 and most recently amended 26/09/2022. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £0.25.

Board of Trustees

The membership of the Board of Trustees is listed on page 1. The Board of Trustees meets at least four times each year. The strategic plan is reviewed annually. The majority of trustees are elected from the membership and we ensure that members in all nations of the UK are represented, with co-options used to bring in additional skills and expertise from outside the sector. We are committed to inclusion and diversity and seek to improve the balance of under-represented groups among our trustees. An induction pack is given to all new trustees outlining policy and strategy, legal status and governance, structure, organisation and staffing and finance. This is reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

The Finance & General Purposes (F&GP) Committee consists of the Treasurer, Chair of the Board and elected trustees. This committee meets four times each year with delegated authority from the Board, monitors the organisation's performance and makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

Additional working groups and sub-committees are established as needed and currently include a Development Committee.

All Board and F&GP Committee meetings are attended by the Chief Executive.

Staff team

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Beatrice Merrick | Chief Executive |
| Chris Hussey | Training and Communications Manager |
| Clive Copeman | Administrator – Membership and Events |
| Sarah Burns | Communications Officer (from February 2025) |

The staff team has regular meetings. Staff appraisal and review meetings are in place and training is available for all staff members and volunteers. Pay for staff is approved by the Finance & General Purposes Committee and reported to the Board of Trustees.

Risk management

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the management of risks faced by the Association. Detailed considerations of risk are delegated to the Finance & General Purposes Committee. Risks are identified and assessed, and controls are established throughout the year. The Risk Register is reviewed each year.

Through the risk management processes established for the Association the Board of Trustees are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated where necessary. It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (continued)

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by its Articles of Association. The charity is known as Early Education.

Early Education's objectives are to promote the education and development of young children, and to support those who provide early education and care. We aim to carry out our charitable purposes to deliver public benefit through the following activities. We champion the rights of the child and strive to improve provision for young children. We provide a network of support, advice and collective representation for anyone concerned with the provision of quality education and care of young children.

We are a membership organisation with members across the UK. We provide opportunities for professional development through our local branch events, a national programme of training courses and conferences, and the training and consultancy provided by our Associates. We publish books, resources and a journal in print, and maintain a website with further online resources, supplemented by email newsletters and social media communications. We also undertake project work in support of our aims.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity.

| 2024-25: the year in brief | |
|---|--|
|  | National events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 219 bookings for 4 member briefings • 569 bookings for other free events • 143 bookings for 8 CPD courses • 163 bookings for 2 face-to-face conferences |
|  | Local branches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1316 bookings for 41 events held by 16 local branches |
|  | Associates <p>107 bespoke training and consultancy bookings for 63 clients including 161 training events reaching an estimated 4,000 participants,</p> |
|  | Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 732 individual members • 359 organisational members |
|  | Website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 286,000 page views of Early Education's website by 79,000 users • 1.9m page views of the <i>Birth to 5 Matters</i> website by 370,000 users • 52,000 downloads of <i>Birth to 5 Matters</i> PDF |
|  | Publications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,346 (printed copies of <i>Birth to 5 Matters</i> sold • Over 700 copies of other titles sold • Three issues of the <i>Early Education Journal</i> published |
|  | Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPACE to Flourish in Year 1 involved 27 training sessions for up to 12 practitioners from 6 settings, benefiting over 500 children, 20% of whom were from disadvantaged backgrounds |

2024-25: THE YEAR IN DETAIL

Campaigns, policy and public awareness

Advocacy

Early Education is committed to advocating and campaigning for principled approaches to early years curriculum, pedagogy and assessment. We seek to drive up the quality of early childhood education and care (ECEC) through improved pay, status and qualifications of the early years workforce and sufficient early years funding. We are the leading voice advocating for maintained nursery schools because of their exceptional impact for the most vulnerable children. We advocate for equity and inclusion for every child through a strong focus on the needs of the most disadvantaged children including children with SEND, and on promoting diversity and anti-racism.

We planned:

- to build case for national early years workforce strategies through strengthening the evidence base across the UK
- to act as a voice for our membership with the Department for Education and Ofsted over early years policy in England
- to lead work with education unions on the campaign for maintained nursery schools
- to continue joint advocacy with groups such as the Early Education & Childcare Coalition (EECC), the Fair Education Alliance (FEA), the Early Years Nutrition Group, More Than A Score (MTAS) and the Nature Premium Steering Group

What we did:

In England, we continued to participate in regular forums with DfE officials including fortnightly meetings about the implementation of the new entitlements. The election of a new government brought opportunities for meetings with the new Minister for Early Education. We remain actively involved in the EECC, and have been involved with the EY nutrition group and MTAS. Following a decision to refocus our effort, we have stepping down from active involvement with the Nature Premium campaign and FEA.

Work continued with the National Education Union, National Association of Headteachers and Unison on the campaign to save Maintained Nursery Schools. Stephen Morgan MP, Minister for Early Education gave the keynote at our Maintained Nursery Schools Headteachers conference in November 2024. In March 2025, we undertook a survey of maintained nursery schools to be published later in the year to support the ongoing call for funding reform..

We undertook a survey of our Scottish members about their priorities and preferences for engagement following requests for more active advocacy on behalf of our Scottish members. We organised an event with the Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland to allow members to hear about and comment on the proposed new Quality Improvement Framework.

Our Nuffield Foundation-funded research comparing early years workforce policy across the four UK nations got underway. The first meeting of the Advisory Group in February included representatives of key stakeholders across all four nations.

Development projects

We planned: to Increase our capacity to deliver on our core mission eg support professional learning, raise quality of ECE and contribute to core costs through funded projects.

- Plan for dissemination and continuation of SPACE to Flourish
- The Family Music Hub (funded by Youth Music)

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (continued)

- Nuffield Foundation-funded Comparative study of Early Years Workforce across the four UK nations

What we did

The Supporting Pedagogy Arts and Creativity Everywhere (SPACE) to Flourish project has continued to offer training to settings and schools in Greenwich and Wandsworth. A project [webpage](#) was published, with three digital resources. The first cohort of trainees completed their first year and a second cohort have begun the programme, alongside continuing cohort 1 involvement.

The Family Music Hub has now been established as a Community Interest Company, and continue to develop their work through the funding provided by Youth Music.

The Nuffield Foundation agreed to fund our Comparative study of the early years workforce across the four UK nations, led by Emeritus Professor Dame Cathy Nutbrown with Professor Verity Campbell-Barr, Professor Aline-Wendy Dunlop, Dr Glenda Tinney and Dr Glenda Walsh, . By the end of the financial year, work was underway with the project: the ethical review had been completed with the University of Sheffield, research assistants were recruited and a first meeting of the Project Advisory Group had been held.

Professional learning

Bespoke training and consultancy from our Associates

The aim of the Associates programme is to work towards Early Education being seen as the first choice for experts in early childhood education and care (ECEC). We seek to maximise the work we do to have the greatest possible impact on the sector and children's outcomes. Unlike the many commercial providers in the field, any surplus generated from the programme goes to support the core costs of our charity, enabling us to continue our advocacy and offering free resources for public benefit. We secure work by tendering for suitable publicly tendered contracts, through repeat customers and outreach to potential new clients. We maintain a rolling programme of recruitment of new Associates.

What we did

During the year we were commissioned to provide 107 bespoke training and consultancy bookings for 63 clients including 161 training events reaching an estimated 4,000 participants.

Additionally we provided a range of other supporting including:

- quality improvement support for childminders in one local authority
- writing, reviewing and amending online child development training for the Department for Education
- Consultancy support for specific settings (in-person visits and virtual support)
- Providing expert advice to a tribunal panel hearing
- Brief writing for higher education materials
- Coaching and mentoring programme for providers and local authority staff

During the year, five new Associates were recruited, including our first Associate based in Scotland, joining our existing team in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (continued)

Our national programme of continuing professional development

Our national programme is intended to meet sector needs for continuing professional development, raise the quality of ECEC delivery, deliver additional value for members. During the year we aimed to increase take-up by matching course delivery to demand, to evaluate courses for evidence of impact and to continue to offer free events to add value to the membership package. We also sought to scope out the lack of CPD for children from birth to 3, identify gaps and how we could help to fill them.

What we did

We provided a more targeted programme to allow more focused content, prioritising the Learning Circle model to provide learning that follows the evidence of what makes effective CPD. We put in place revised pre- and post-course questionnaires, including tutor feedback, and reflected with tutors on the feedback and agreed follow up action.

Free termly member briefings were held and most of our Birth to 3 roadshow events were free to members. Four other free events were offered. Birth to 3 roadshow events were arranged in partnership with branches in London, Darlington, Midlands, Bristol/ECHO, Lancaster, Cornwall & Devon.

A total of nearly 1,200 bookings were taken for events in our national programme including:

- 82 bookings for 5 Birth to 3 roadshow events
- 219 bookings for 4 member briefings
- 569 bookings for 5 other free events
- 106 bookings for 6 learning circles
- 37 bookings for 2 one-session events
- 163 bookings for 2 in person conferences

Uptake of free events demonstrates the gap between demand and funding for the sector.

Publications and resources

We publish print and online materials which are intended to deliver thought leadership on ECE, support professional learning in the sector and provide value to members.

Our flagship publication remains the *Birth to 5 Matters* non-statutory guidance, and we continue to lead the work of the Early Years Coalition (EYC) which oversees it. During the year the EYC Steering Group met with DfE and Ofsted to encourage greater official recognition of a document which is a widespread reference work for students and practitioners. The Steering group also committed to a review of the guidance, four years since original publication. There were 1.9m page views of the *Birth to 5 Matters* website by 370,000 users, 52,000 downloads of the *Birth to 5 Matters* PDF and over 2,300 hard copies were sold.

Two of the termly issues of the Early Education Journal focused on aspects of sustainability (guest editors Debi Keyte-Hartland and Jan White in the summer and Lesley Curtis for the spring issue) and one on creativity (guest editor Pete Moorhouse).

Members received fortnightly news updates by email and online we published six guest blogs.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (continued)

Building reach and impact

Membership

Our aim is to grow levels of engagement, reach and impact through increasing our membership. This will also ensure active grass roots engagement and feedback through branches. We seek to maximise retention of existing members by ensuring our membership offer remains attractive, relevant and good value, through follow up with lapsed members and supporting local branches, which provide a key forum for member engagement.

In common with many membership bodies, we continue to see a small decline in numbers. We retain a strong core of committed members who value their membership highly. Trustees are considering models that might increase the attraction of Early Education membership.

| | At end March 2025 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Total individual members | 732 |
| Total organisation members | 359 |

Local branches

Our local branches provide a forum for “grass roots” involvement in planning a professional learning agenda and engaging members. During the year we undertook to explore how the branch offer and structure might need to adapt to practitioners’ and providers’ changing needs and the current environment, and the synergy between branch activity and membership. We sought to support active branches to continue and less active branches to revive their local branch offer.

We completed a survey of branch officers and reported back via an online meeting with branch officers. Branch officers also attended a Strategy and Development meeting with trustees, Vice Presidents and Associates. The latter highlighted the value of bringing together branch officers with Associates to inspire ideas for events and showcase the expertise available from Associates. Our Birth to 3 roadshows, held jointly with branches, were a catalyst to reviving activity in one branch.

Our branches are mainly volunteer-run, with some administrative support from the charity’s staff team, and it is a testimony to the efforts of our local branch committees that 13 branches ran 41 events with over 1,300 bookings. We are grateful to all who give their time to support our local branches.

Governance and compliance

Our objectives for the year were to create a pipeline of potential trustees to improve the diversity of the Board, and to ensure a successful succession in the role of Treasurer.

What we did

Trustee undertook a skills audit to support decisions on trustee co-options, and vacant places were advertised, although we were not successful in recruiting to these, so work has been ongoing to identify individuals with suitable skills and to encourage them to apply.

The handover to the new Treasurer was successfully undertaken following the AGM, with the outgoing Treasurer remaining on the Board for a further year to ensure continuity and support.

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (continued)

PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT

Our primary means of raising the quality of early childhood education in the UK are through our impact on policy as a campaigning organisation, and our influence on practitioners' professional learning.

The figures on page 5 indicate the scale and reach of impact we are able to measure through membership, attendance at events, instances of commissioned work or engagement with our resources. Our reach becomes larger but less direct and harder to measure as it expands to groups with less direct interaction with us.

As a campaigning organisation, we continue to work closely with others in the sector. For an organisation of our size, we believe we continue to have a significant impact from a small resource base thanks to all those who volunteer their time to support our work at local and national level.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Our plans for 2025-26 are set within the context of the organisation's long-term objectives.

Objective 1: Practitioners benefit from/participate in high quality professional learning experiences which enhance their:

- professionalism, confidence, and sense of belonging
- knowledge and skills to offer high quality provision and work effectively with families

1. National programme of CPD, training and events - ensure high quality, affordable, accessible CPD events are directly accessible to practitioners.

2. Bespoke CPD from Associates - support the CPD needs of practitioners through commissioned work for settings, schools, local authorities and other bodies to widen our reach and impact.

3. Branches - support grass roots involvement in driving professional learning that meets local needs and provide opportunities for networking, peer learning and sharing of practice.

4. Membership - membership resources provide professional learning opportunities through professional updating, access to latest research and practice; dialogue with members informs advocacy and campaigns.

Objective 2: National and local policy-makers receive appropriate messages and information from the sector and engage in informed/dialogue

5. Advocacy/ Campaigns

We aim to Improve the policy environment in order to enhance quality and access to ECEC by advocating

- principled, rights-based approaches to early years curriculum, pedagogy and assessment, underpinned by research and practice evidence
- improved early years funding, with particular focus on the needs of the most disadvantaged children and children with SEND

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (continued)

- improved pay, status and qualifications of the early years workforce
- action on diversity and anti-racism.

Objective 3: The necessary research and practice knowledge exists and is available to tell us what children need and how adults can best support their learning/ development

6. Funded research projects - develop opportunities to undertake and disseminate research and practice development (eg funded projects) and provide expertise to externally run projects eg participating in project advisory groups.

7. Publications and resources - members (and non-members) are kept informed about recent research and practice knowledge and our publications and communication channels are sought out by researchers wishing to engage with/disseminate to practitioners.

Underpinning activity

8. Governance and compliance - to ensure good governance, continuity and effective delivery of organisation's charitable mission.

9. Additional income generation - to ensure ongoing viability of the charity.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (continued)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results

The results for the year are set out on pages 16 and 17 of these financial statements.

Gross income for the year was £465,821 (2024: £470,588). Membership income was £99,151 (2024: 109,877) with the difference partly resulting from a change in the treatment of deferred income increasing the previous year's figure. Events income increased at £40,759 (2024: 21,405), reflecting an increase in both conference and course income. Consultancy undertaken by Associates was down to £158,183 (2024: £222,250) due to fewer high-value contracts during the year. Publications sales, primarily of *Birth to 5 Matters*, remained stable and raised total income of £33,316 (2024: £35,657). Income from projects increased as projects which had started mid-year in the previous year ran across the whole year in 2024-25. However, the contribution was lower largely due to project-specific donations received in the prior year but spent in 2024-25. The contribution from events was higher than the previous year, but the contributions from other activities decreased.

Expenditure was £495,558 (2024: £465,693). The cost of governance, legal and professional fees increased was higher than the previous year due to several factors including transferring to a different firm of accountants.

Branch income of £3,530 (2024: £5,351) exclusive of branch rebates of £3,848 (2024: £3,668), was lower than expenditure of £7,938 (2024: £11,624) as branches made use of their reserves.

Overall, the charity had a deficit of £29,737 (2024: a surplus of £4,895).

Reserves and investments

Early Education's funding comes mainly from membership fees, sales of goods and services, donations and grants from public and private bodies. Sufficient funds are kept in Early Education's current account to meet immediate needs. Monies in excess of £20,000 in the current account are maintained in a deposit account held with Unity Bank.

Early Education's reserves policy is to maintain three months operating expenses. The committee estimate this to be approximately £52,000 for the year ending 31 March 2025. Unrestricted general funds at this date amounted to £81,013 (2024: £98,965). The purposes of the reserves are to ensure that sufficient funds are available to cover any temporary funding shortfall which results from cash flow timings and to cover its liabilities should the charity have to close.

Risk

The principal risk identified in relation to the 2024-25 financial year was the continued volatility of income streams and the necessity to continue generating activities which provide a surplus. Finding consistent sources of income remains a challenge. Bearing in mind the ongoing challenge for the charity of generating sufficient surplus to cover core costs, the trustees will continue to keep under review the need to maximise income from core activities and additionally seek out project funding that can support this. The deficit in the current year was indicative of the volatility of income streams from year to year. The dependence on project funding to cover core costs remains a risk factor and trustees continue to seek ways to cover core costs from the organisation's primary activities.

Procedures are in place to monitor the adequacy of working capital and trustees receive regular reports on the financial position.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (continued)

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Early Education for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company 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 Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then consistently apply them
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

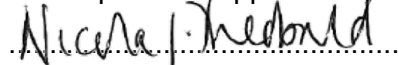
The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Small companies provision statement

This report is prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approval

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Nicola Theobald (Chair of Trustees)

Date: 25/10/2025



Chris Sharpe (Treasurer)

Date: 29/10/2025

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The British Association for
Early Childhood Education ('the Company')**

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 ('the 2005 Act'), the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the Company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Company's accounts carried out under section 44 (1) (c) of the 2005 Act and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the requirements of Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since Early Education is required by company law to prepare its accounts on an accruals basis and is registered as a charity in Scotland your examiner must be a member of a body listed in Regulation 11(2) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records with the accounting requirements of Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The British Association for
Early Childhood Education ('the Company')**

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:



Eva Stevens, BSc, CPFA, employee of Community Accounting Plus
Member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

Units 1 & 2 North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Date: 29/10/2025

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

| | | | | (As restated) |
|------------------------------------|------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Note | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2025 £ |
| Income and Endowments from: | | | | Total 2024 £ |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 1,086 | - | 1,086 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 334,939 | 125,622 | 460,561 |
| Investment income | 5 | 4,174 | - | 4,174 |
| Total income | | 340,199 | 125,622 | 465,821 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 6 | (360,537) | (135,021) | (495,558) |
| Total expenditure | | (360,537) | (135,021) | (495,558) |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (20,338) | (9,399) | (29,737) |
| Net movement in funds | | (20,338) | (9,399) | (29,737) |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 107,761 | 17,500 | 125,261 |
| Total funds carried forward | 16 | 87,423 | 8,101 | 95,524 |

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 16.

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

| | | (As restated) | | (As restated) |
|------------------------------------|------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | Note | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2024 £ |
| Income and Endowments from: | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 1,844 | - | 1,844 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 394,540 | 70,694 | 465,234 |
| Investment income | 5 | 3,510 | - | 3,510 |
| Total income | | 399,894 | 70,694 | 470,588 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 6 | (408,705) | (56,988) | (465,693) |
| Total expenditure | | (408,705) | (56,988) | (465,693) |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (8,811) | 13,706 | 4,895 |
| Transfers between funds | | (3,794) | 3,794 | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (12,605) | 17,500 | 4,895 |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 120,366 | - | 120,366 |
| Total funds carried forward | 16 | 107,761 | 17,500 | 125,261 |

The notes on pages 18 to 27 form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

(Registration number: 00395548)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

| | Note | 2025 £ | (As restated) 2024 £ |
|---|------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Fixed assets | | | |
| Intangible assets | 9 | 4,770 | 7,638 |
| Tangible assets | 10 | 1,640 | 1,158 |
| | | <u>6,410</u> | <u>8,796</u> |
| Current assets | | | |
| Stocks | 11 | 2,519 | 6,555 |
| Debtors | 12 | 73,404 | 88,940 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 13 | 199,215 | 226,213 |
| | | <u>275,138</u> | <u>321,708</u> |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year | 14 | <u>(186,024)</u> | <u>(205,243)</u> |
| Net current assets | | <u>89,114</u> | <u>116,465</u> |
| Net assets | | <u>95,524</u> | <u>125,261</u> |
| Funds of the charity: | | | |
| Restricted income funds | | | |
| Restricted funds | 16 | 8,101 | 17,500 |
| Unrestricted income funds | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | <u>87,423</u> | <u>107,761</u> |
| Total funds | 16 | <u>95,524</u> | <u>125,261</u> |

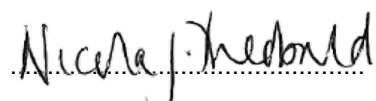
For the financial year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 16 to 27 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ...25/10/2025... and signed on their behalf by:



Nicola Theobald (Chair of Trustees)



Chris Sharpe (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 18 to 27 form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

British Association for Early Childhood Education (The) 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 notes.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Charitable 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.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are stated in the Balance Sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation

Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

| Asset class | Amortisation method and rate |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Website & database | 5 years |

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

| Asset class | Depreciation method and rate |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| IT equipment | 4 years |

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted income funds are those grants for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

Branches

By the end of the year all but one branch had transferred the balance from their own bank accounts to a bank account held by Early Education. A branch return was submitted to us by any branch for periods during which it operated its own bank account, the income and expenditure from these are entered into the central finance system and have been incorporated into the organisation's accounts.

2 Income from donations and legacies

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Donations and legacies; | | | |
| Donations from individuals | 1,086 | 1,086 | 1,844 |
| | <u>1,086</u> | <u>1,086</u> | <u>1,844</u> |

3 Income from charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds Designated £ | General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Membership | - | 99,151 | - | 99,151 | 109,877 |
| Courses & conferences | - | 40,759 | - | 40,759 | 21,405 |
| Consultancy | - | 158,183 | - | 158,183 | 222,250 |
| Branch income | 3,530 | - | - | 3,530 | 5,351 |
| Project grants | - | - | 124,827 | 124,827 | 58,194 |
| Publications & resources | - | 33,316 | - | 33,316 | 35,657 |
| Grants & donations | - | - | - | - | 12,500 |
| License fee | - | - | 795 | 795 | - |
| | <u>3,530</u> | <u>331,409</u> | <u>125,622</u> | <u>460,561</u> | <u>465,234</u> |

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

4 Grants & donations

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total £ |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| The Charity of Sire Richard Whittington | - | 63,782 | 63,782 |
| Youth Music | - | 50,661 | 50,661 |
| Individual donation | - | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| The Nuffield Foundation | - | 4,134 | 4,134 |
| HMRC Gift Aid | - | 1,250 | 1,250 |
| Sundry donations | 1,086 | - | 1,086 |
| | <u>1,086</u> | <u>124,827</u> | <u>125,913</u> |

5 Investment income

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Interest receivable and similar income; | | | |
| Interest receivable on bank deposits | 4,174 | 4,174 | 3,510 |
| | <u>4,174</u> | <u>4,174</u> | <u>3,510</u> |

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds Designated £ | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Admin | - | 17,554 | - | 17,554 | 19,398 |
| Branch expenditure | 7,938 | - | - | 7,938 | 11,624 |
| Consultancy | - | 116,960 | - | 116,960 | 162,649 |
| Courses & conferences | - | 15,959 | - | 15,959 | 9,692 |
| Depreciation | - | 3,271 | - | 3,271 | 3,245 |
| Governance, legal & professional | 2,500 | 19,261 | - | 21,761 | 12,744 |
| Irrecoverable VAT | - | 6,266 | - | 6,266 | 2,083 |
| Membership | - | 8,165 | - | 8,165 | 9,165 |
| Other costs | - | 2,339 | - | 2,339 | - |
| Projects | - | - | 111,857 | 111,857 | 56,988 |
| Project recharges (management fees) | - | (23,164) | 23,164 | - | - |
| Publications & resources | - | 22,765 | - | 22,765 | 20,625 |
| Rent | - | 15,493 | - | 15,493 | 16,325 |
| Wages, NI & pension | - | 145,230 | - | 145,230 | 147,317 |
| Previous year cost reallocation to projects | - | - | - | - | (6,162) |
| | <u>10,438</u> | <u>350,099</u> | <u>135,021</u> | <u>495,558</u> | <u>465,693</u> |

Previous year comparison figures have been recategorised for more accurate comparison purposes and have also been restated.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year include:

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 3,271 | 3,245 |

8 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Staff costs during the year were: | | |
| Wages and salaries | 125,805 | 127,675 |
| Social security costs | 9,092 | 9,506 |
| Pension costs | 10,333 | 10,136 |
| | <u>145,230</u> | <u>147,317</u> |

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

| | 2025 No | 2024 No |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Average number of employees | 3 | 3 |

3 (2024 - 3) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £10,333 (2024 - £10,136).

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

| | 2025 No | 2024 No |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| £70,001 - £80,000 | 1 | 1 |

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £84,872 (2024 - £82,963).

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

9 Intangible fixed assets

| | Website & database £ | Total £ |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Cost | | |
| At 1 April 2024 | 14,342 | 14,342 |
| At 31 March 2025 | 14,342 | 14,342 |
| Amortisation | | |
| At 1 April 2024 | 6,704 | 6,704 |
| Charge for the year | 2,868 | 2,868 |
| At 31 March 2025 | 9,572 | 9,572 |
| Net book value | | |
| At 31 March 2025 | 4,770 | 4,770 |
| At 31 March 2024 (as restated) | 7,638 | 7,638 |

10 Tangible fixed assets

| | Computer equipment £ | Total £ |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cost | | |
| At 1 April 2024 | 5,010 | 5,010 |
| Additions | 885 | 885 |
| At 31 March 2025 | 5,895 | 5,895 |
| Depreciation | | |
| At 1 April 2024 | 3,852 | 3,852 |
| Charge for the year | 403 | 403 |
| At 31 March 2025 | 4,255 | 4,255 |
| Net book value | | |
| At 31 March 2025 | 1,640 | 1,640 |
| At 31 March 2024 (as restated) | 1,158 | 1,158 |

11 Stock

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Stocks | 2,519 | 6,555 |

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

12 Debtors

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Trade debtors | 56,727 | 75,148 |
| Prepayments | 12,343 | 7,713 |
| Accrued income | 4,334 | 4,149 |
| Other debtors | - | 1,930 |
| | <u>73,404</u> | <u>88,940</u> |

13 Cash and cash equivalents

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Cash at bank | <u>199,215</u> | <u>226,213</u> |

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Trade creditors | 38,699 | 46,344 |
| Other taxation and social security | 16,078 | 21,631 |
| Other creditors | 773 | 380 |
| Accruals | 2,185 | 8,978 |
| Deferred income | <u>128,289</u> | <u>127,910</u> |
| | <u>186,024</u> | <u>205,243</u> |

15 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Land and buildings | | |
| Within one year | <u>11,115</u> | <u>14,468</u> |

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

16 Funds

| | Balance at 1 April 2024 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2025 £ |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| <i>General</i> | | | | | |
| General | 55,436 | 336,669 | (350,099) | 4,919 | 46,925 |
| <i>Designated</i> | | | | | |
| Branches | 44,906 | 3,530 | (7,938) | - | 40,498 |
| Centenary | 4,586 | - | - | (4,586) | - |
| Marketing | 2,833 | - | - | (2,833) | - |
| Strategic Development | - | - | (2,500) | 2,500 | - |
| | 52,325 | 3,530 | (10,438) | (4,919) | 40,498 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 107,761 | 340,199 | (360,537) | - | 87,423 |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Erasmus+ Project | 3,794 | - | (3,794) | - | - |
| EY Coalition Project | 1,206 | 795 | (1,400) | - | 601 |
| The Family Music Hub | 12,500 | 56,911 | (61,911) | - | 7,500 |
| EY Workforce in the 4 nations | - | 4,134 | (4,134) | - | - |
| SPACE to Flourish Project | - | 63,782 | (63,782) | - | - |
| Total restricted funds | 17,500 | 125,622 | (135,021) | - | 8,101 |
| Total funds | 125,261 | 465,821 | (495,558) | - | 95,524 |

The transfer from the General fund to the Strategic development fund was to ringfence some money for that activity.

As a result of the creation of the Strategic development fund, there was no longer a need for the Centenary and Marketing designated funds, so their balances were transferred back to the General fund.

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Erasmus+ Project - Funding received under the Erasmus+ programme for the project Child-Centred Competences for Early Childhood Education and Care, led by the University of Plymouth.

EY Coalition Project - Early Education leads the Early Years Coalition of sector organisations which produced the Birth to 5 Matters non-statutory guidance and receives some licensing income related to the guidance to cover the costs of hosting and maintaining the Birth to 5 Matters website.

The Family Music Hub - Funding was received from Youth Music and from charitable donations to support development of The Family Music Hub (TFMH), to provide CPD and resources for everyone making music with families with young children. TFMH has now been established as a Community Interest Company able to operate in its own right.

EY Workforce in the 4 UK Nations - The Nuffield Foundation are funding our research project: A comparative study of the early years workforce across the four UK nations, which will report in late 2025.

SPACE to Flourish Project - The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington, through The Mercers Company, is funding our project, Supporting Pedagogy, Arts & Creativity Everywhere (SPACE) to Flourish, to improve children's school readiness through a focus on supporting creativity and the arts.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

| | Balance at 1 April 2023 £ | Incoming resources £ | (As restated) Resources expended £ | Transfers £ | (As restated) Balance at 31 March 2024 £ |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------|---|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| <i>General</i> | | | | | |
| General | 63,530 | 394,543 | (395,175) | (7,462) | 55,436 |
| <i>Designated</i> | | | | | |
| Branches | 47,511 | 5,351 | (11,624) | 3,668 | 44,906 |
| Centenary | 4,816 | - | (230) | - | 4,586 |
| Marketing | 4,509 | - | (1,676) | - | 2,833 |
| | 56,836 | 5,351 | (13,530) | 3,668 | 52,325 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 120,366 | 399,894 | (408,705) | (3,794) | 107,761 |
| Restricted | | | | | |
| Erasmus+ Project | - | - | - | 3,794 | 3,794 |
| The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington | - | 35,359 | (35,359) | - | - |
| EY Coalition Project | - | 2,463 | (1,257) | - | 1,206 |
| The Family Music Hub | - | 32,872 | (20,372) | - | 12,500 |
| Total restricted funds | - | 70,694 | (56,988) | 3,794 | 17,500 |
| Total funds | 120,366 | 470,588 | (465,693) | - | 125,261 |

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

| | Unrestricted | | | 2025 |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| | General £ | Designated £ | Restricted £ | Total funds £ |
| Intangible fixed assets | 4,770 | - | - | 4,770 |
| Tangible fixed assets | 1,640 | - | - | 1,640 |
| Current assets | 152,707 | 40,498 | 81,933 | 275,138 |
| Current liabilities | (112,192) | - | (73,832) | (186,024) |
| Total net assets | 46,925 | 40,498 | 8,101 | 95,524 |

| | Unrestricted | | | (As restated) 2024 |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | General £ | Designated £ | Restricted £ | Total funds £ |
| Intangible fixed assets | 7,638 | - | - | 7,638 |
| Tangible fixed assets | 1,158 | - | - | 1,158 |
| Current assets | 251,883 | 52,325 | 17,500 | 321,708 |
| Current liabilities | (205,243) | - | - | (205,243) |
| Total net assets | 55,436 | 52,325 | 17,500 | 125,261 |

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

18 3rd party funds

| | Opening balances £ | Incoming resources £ | (Resources expended) £ | Total £ |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Branch fund holding: Bristol/ECHO | 380 | 1,100 | (1,360) | 120 |

We have a partnership agreement with the Early Childhood Organisation (ECHO) in Bristol, which operates on a parallel basis to our other local branches, while retaining its status as a separate organisation.

19 Fees payable to independent examiner

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner are analysed as follows:

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Independent examination | 1,500 | 1,050 |

20 Charity status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £0.25 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

21 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

22 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Julia Henderson

£141 (2024: £204) of travel expenses were reimbursed to Julia Henderson during the year.

Heather Lomas

£30 (2024: £25) of travel expenses were reimbursed to Heather Lomas during the year.

Myra McRobbie

£286 (2024: £Nil) of travel expenses were reimbursed to Myra McRobbie during the year.

Nicola Theobald

£75 (2024: £156) of travel expenses were reimbursed to Nicola Theobald during the year.

Rebecca Cook

£Nil (2024: £310) of travel expenses were reimbursed to Rebecca Cook during the year.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

23 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.