

**Charity registration number 1090556 (England and Wales)**

**Company registration number 04202335**

**MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	Ms S Nelson Mr R Hunter Ms S France	(Appointed 15 September 2025)
<b>Secretary</b>	Miss O Meekin	
<b>Charity number (England and Wales)</b>	1090556	
<b>Company number</b>	04202335	
<b>Principal address</b>	Blaris Industrial Estate Unit 2 24 Altona Road Lisburn Antrim BT27 5QB	
<b>Registered office</b>	59-60 Russell Square London England WC1B 4HP	
<b>Auditor</b>	GMcG LISBURN Century House 40 Crescent Business Park Lisburn BT28 2GN	
<b>Bankers</b>	Danske Bank Donegall Square West Belfast BT1 6JS	
<b>Solicitors</b>	Bishop & Sewell LLP Solicitors 59-60 Russell Square London WC1B 4HB	

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# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

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# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019)

#### Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are:

- a) to provide, arrange and pay for the education and training of persons with an emphasis towards musical composition performance and dance as an expression of life and culture;
- b) to develop, fund, administer, facilitate, promote, operate and carry on activities and facilities which will provide relief and/or education to persons in needy circumstances; and
- c) to pursue in any part of the world other charitable purposes benefiting peoples or communities as the trustees of the charity may determine.

We will do this by:

- a) Providing for their long term well being and educational needs to become leading contributors to the 'New Africa';
- b) Instilling ethical and moral principles through teaching and leading example; and
- c) Serving as an advocate of the beauty and dignity of the African child around the world.

We have supported our objectives by:

- a) Supporting our Field programmes in South Africa, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda through Direct Grants and field expenses paid directly by the UK Office. The various African Offices provide monthly budgets and this is funded by our restricted sponsorship and appeal revenue and any surplus from our concert revenue from the African Children's Choir tours.
- b) Supporting our Choir programme which meet the costs of Choir selection and training in Africa, travel costs, medical, educational and living costs for the Choir children touring in the UK and Europe.
- c) Supporting Choir Chaperones through their BPS (Building Personal Support) Funds.
- d) Providing Office Support Costs of our Choir and African Operations.

#### *Public benefit*

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

#### Achievements and performance

*Significant activities and achievements against objectives*

#### CHOIR ACTIVITIES

- Ubuntu – Anniversary Tour preparations were finalised for two separate tours: -  
UK - March to May 2025  
Australia - May to June 2025

Two separate groups meant that more of our senior students from both Kenya and Uganda were given the opportunity to travel again.

The UK tour has given us an opportunity to reconnect with churches who have hosted the African Children's Choir in the past as well as reach out to new contacts.

We are delighted our goal of increasing the number of sponsors was realized.

- Choir Training at our African Children's Choir Primary School in Uganda continued with students preparing for tours in Canada and the USA.
- Fundraising efforts included regular social media campaigns, electronic and physical mailings and funding from music royalties.

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### AFRICA FIELD ACTIVITIES

##### *South Africa*

- At this time there are nine students in our programme, with five completing their university or college courses. We are in regular contact with all these students providing food assistance, transport and guidance regarding university applications, CVs and leadership opportunities.
- In April 2024 a further three students graduated their studies in Tourism Management, IT and Public Affairs.
- There is a property we are actively trying to sell which will help with ongoing expenses.

##### *Kenya*

- Kindergartens run by Music For Life have continued to flourish with new children enrolled each school year. We have three Kindergartens, two are in Kibera slum, Nairobi and one in a rural setting in Maasai land.
- Each year 20 students are selected from those children graduating from the Kindergarten programme for further sponsorship. To date we have 121 sponsored students in primary and 32 in Junior High.
- Music for Life Centres have continued in three under resourced partner primary schools led by ACC alumni offering music, life skills, bible lessons, games and food.
- African Odyssey has expanded into local schools, greatly increasing the number of lives impacted by Music For Life in Kenya.

##### *Uganda*

- African Children's Choir Primary School - A new Head of School has been appointed as the former head retired at the end of 2024.
- Empower International Academy – The first set of students who sat their IGCSE exams at the end 2024 achieved very good results. They embarked on their A levels studies at the beginning of 2025 meaning that the school now has five year groups.
- Music for Life Centres led by African Children's Choir university students continue in five partner schools offering bible lessons, life skills, music, games, and food.
- Mentorship programme continues to flourish with African Children's Choir university students supporting our secondary level students through school and home visits.
- It was a pleasure to host a team from Poulner Baptist Church which visited Uganda in August 2024. They led bible camps at both the African Children's Choir Primary School and Empower International Academy as well as visiting one of the Music For Life Centres, visiting homes and ministering to our university students and staff.

#### **Financial review**

The charity's trading subsidiary, Music for Life Records Limited reported a turnover of £5,794 (2024 - £7,151).

The results for the year are set out on 11 to 24. The charity returned net outgoing resources of £121,932 (2024 - £170,620).

#### *Reserves policy*

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees considers that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### *Major risks*

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

### **Plans for future periods**

The charity has the following plans for future periods:

- Continuation of replacing and adding to the Music for Life Academy Board of Directors.
- We hope to build on the momentum gained by the Ubuntu Anniversary Tour of the UK to develop our church relationships and increase our donor base.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Ms S Nelson

Mr R Hunter

Mr A Palmer

Ms S France

(Resigned 15 September 2025)

(Appointed 15 September 2025)

### *Recruitment and appointment of trustees*

The directors are appointed at the annual general meeting of the company's members and retire by rotation. The directors may at any time co-opt any person as an additional director until the next annual general meeting.

Day-to-day management decisions are made by the International Executive Team. Being an organisation with a presence in the UK, Canada, USA, Uganda, Kenya, Sudan and South Africa, the team is made up of a leadership team overseeing the Choir, African and Administrative operations. This team of people meets weekly by conference call or Skype and also face-to-face annually or biannually for more in-depth planning and strategy. This same group prepares policies and procedures that are used throughout the organisation and present them to the Board for approval before implementation. The trustees are responsible for approving general budgets, approving policies and procedures, major purchases and major new directions in the organisation.

### *Relationship with related parties*

Related parties of the charity include its trustees and a number of other companies under common control with Music for Life Academy: Music for Life Institute, Music for Life Records Limited.

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### Statement of director's responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Music for Life Academy for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Director's Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these 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 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 adequate 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 Companies Act 2006. 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.

#### Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that GMcG LISBURN be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

#### Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provision applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The director's report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Ms S Nelson  
Director

Date: 19 December 2025

## MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### TO THE MEMBERS OF MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

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##### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Music for Life Academy (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

##### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the director's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## **MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE MEMBERS OF MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY**

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#### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the director's report, prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the director's report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the director's report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

## **MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **TO THE MEMBERS OF MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY**

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##### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of director's responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

##### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

## MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE MEMBERS OF MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

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#### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and assessing potential risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliances with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- The nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance, including the charitable company's remuneration policies for directors, bonus levels and performance targets, if any;
- Results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- Any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the charitable company's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instance of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- The matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in revenue recognition. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the charitable company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

## MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE MEMBERS OF MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

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#### **Audit response to risks identified**

Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Enquiring of management concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with tax authorities; and
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. In addition, as with any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as they may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE MEMBERS OF MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

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#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Mr Stephen Houston FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
for and on behalf of GMcG LISBURN

Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditor  
Century House  
40 Crescent Business Park  
Lisburn  
BT28 2GN

Date: 19/12/25

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>							
Charitable activities	3	93,583	80,920	174,503	60,137	74,745	134,882
Investments	4	5,367	-	5,367	11,546	-	11,546
<b>Total income</b>		<u>98,950</u>	<u>80,920</u>	<u>179,870</u>	<u>71,683</u>	<u>74,745</u>	<u>146,428</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Charitable activities	5	76,134	225,668	301,802	50,445	266,603	317,048
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>76,134</u>	<u>225,668</u>	<u>301,802</u>	<u>50,445</u>	<u>266,603</u>	<u>317,048</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<u>22,816</u>	<u>(144,748)</u>	<u>(121,932)</u>	<u>21,238</u>	<u>(191,858)</u>	<u>(170,620)</u>
Transfers between funds	8	(144,748)	144,748	-	(191,858)	191,858	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	9	<u>(121,932)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(121,932)</u>	<u>(170,620)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(170,620)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		<u>367,418</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>367,418</u>	<u>538,038</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>538,038</u>
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2025</b>		<u><u>245,486</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>245,486</u></u>	<u><u>367,418</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>367,418</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		1,266		1,497
Investments	14		1		1
			<u>1,267</u>		<u>1,498</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	50,093		23,948	
Cash at bank and in hand		258,468		400,671	
		<u>308,561</u>		<u>424,619</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	(64,342)		(58,699)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>244,219</u>		<u>365,920</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>245,486</u>		<u>367,418</u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>					
Unrestricted funds	19		<u>245,486</u>		<u>367,418</u>
			<u>245,486</u>		<u>367,418</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 19/12/25 and signed on their behalf by



Ms S Nelson  
Director

Company registration number 04202335 (England and Wales)

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Music for Life Academy is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 59-60 Russell Square, London, WC1B 4HP, England. The business address is Blaris Industrial Estate, Unit 2, 24 Altona Road, Lisburn, Co Antrim, BT27 5QB.

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

These financial statement contain information about the individual charitable company, Music for Life Academy only. Music for Life Academy and its subsidiary company, Music for Life Records Limited, comprise a small group and as such Music for Life Academy is exempt from preparing consolidated accounts under Company legislation. The directors have taken advantage of the provisions with SORP FRS 102 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice not to prepare consolidated accounts on the basis that the only subsidiary undertaking of the charitable company is not considered to be material for the purpose of the financial statements giving a true and fair view.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

##### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

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.

Support and governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and any other fees linked to the strategic management of the charity. Support and governance costs have been allocated to charitable activities based on a percentage of restricted income.

##### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computer equipment	33% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	15% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

##### 1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

##### 1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

##### 1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

##### ***Basic financial assets***

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

##### ***Basic financial liabilities***

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

##### ***Derecognition of financial liabilities***

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### 1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

#### 1.12 Foreign exchange

Transactions in currencies other than pounds sterling are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At each reporting end date, monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing on the reporting end date. Gains and losses arising on translation in the period are included in profit or loss.

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated 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 where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

#### Critical judgements

##### Fixed Assets

The annual depreciation charge on fixed assets depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of assets and estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these assets lives and change them as necessary to reflect the current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset lives can have a significant impact on depreciation charges for the period. Detail of the useful lives is included in the accounting policies.

##### Restricted and unrestricted funds

Judgements are made in relation to allocation of income and expenditure to restricted and unrestricted funds. The directors consider it appropriate to allocate these funds based on donations received.

**MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

3	Income from charitable activities	Field Programmes		Choir Tour & Concerts		BPS GB Appeals & General		Field Programmes		BPS GB Appeals & General		Total						
		2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2024	£	2024	£					
	Donations within charitable activities	150,783		19,486		500		3,734		174,503		124,157		562		10,163		134,882
	<b>Analysis by fund</b>																	
	Unrestricted funds	74,097		19,486		-		-		93,583		60,137		-		-		60,137
	Restricted funds	76,686		-		500		3,734		80,920		64,020		562		10,163		74,745
		150,783		19,486		500		3,734		174,503		124,157		562		10,163		134,882

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### 4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Other income	1,279	6,320
Interest receivable	4,088	5,226
	<u>5,367</u>	<u>11,546</u>

**MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

5 Expenditure on charitable activities	Field Programmes		Choir Tour & Concerts		BPS GB Appeals & General		Total		Field Programmes		BPS GB Appeals & General		Total	
	2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2024	£	2024	£
<b>Direct costs</b>														
Staff costs	80,614		10,581		-		91,195		93,142		-		93,142	
Depreciation and impairment	231		-		-		231		533		-		533	
Direct Costs	149,419		24,998		10	3,257	177,684		181,428		10	1,951	183,389	
	230,264		35,579		10	3,257	269,110		275,103		10	1,951	277,064	
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)</b>														
Support	21,488		2,990		-		24,478		24,118		-		24,118	
Governance	7,894		320		-		8,214		15,866		-		15,866	
	259,646		38,889		10	3,257	301,802		315,087		10	1,951	317,048	
<b>Analysis by fund</b>														
Unrestricted funds	37,245		38,889		-		76,134		50,445		-		50,445	
Restricted funds	222,401		-		10	3,257	225,668		264,642		10	1,951	266,603	
	259,646		38,889		10	3,257	301,802		315,087		10	1,951	317,048	

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 6 Description of charitable activities

##### Field Programmes

The funding of various programmes in South Africa, Kenya and Uganda.

##### Choir Tour & Concerts

Supporting the choir programme which includes choir selection and training in Africa, travel costs, medical, educational and living costs for the choir children touring in the UK and Europe.

##### BPS

Supporting Choir Chaperones.

##### GB Appeals & General

Providing office support costs for choir and African operations.

#### 7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Rent	7,884	8,322
Insurance	1,141	1,181
Light and heat	967	1,028
Repairs	1,412	444
Postage and stationery	4,602	3,123
Telephone and IT	5,659	5,951
Travelling expenses	681	1,153
Sundry expenses	598	953
Subscriptions	1,069	520
Bank charges	465	1,443
Governance costs	8,214	15,866
	<u>32,692</u>	<u>39,984</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>		
Field Programmes	29,382	39,984
Choir Tour & Concerts	3,310	-
	<u>32,692</u>	<u>39,984</u>
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Governance costs comprise:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Audit and accountancy fees	6,600	7,740
Legal and professional	1,614	8,126
	<u>8,214</u>	<u>15,866</u>

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 8 Transfers

Transfers made from unrestricted fund to the restricted funds were to cover resources expended in excess of funds received in relation to some projects.

9 Net movement in funds	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	6,600	7,740
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	231	533
	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>

#### 10 Trustees

None of the trustees who held office during the year (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

#### 11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Administration	2	2
Sponsorship	2	1
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

Employment costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	86,053	86,484
Social security costs	2,276	3,249
Other pension costs	2,866	3,409
	<u>91,195</u>	<u>93,142</u>

The total employment benefits including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £37,048 (2024 - £48,611).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

#### 12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2024	1,937	15,866	17,803
At 31 March 2025	1,937	15,866	17,803
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>			
At 1 April 2024	1,929	14,377	16,306
Depreciation charged in the year	8	223	231
At 31 March 2025	1,937	14,600	16,537
<b>Carrying amount</b>			
At 31 March 2025	-	1,266	1,266
At 31 March 2024	8	1,489	1,497

#### 14 Fixed asset investments

	Other investments £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 April 2024 & 31 March 2025	1
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 March 2025	1
At 31 March 2024	1

Other investments comprise:	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Investments in subsidiaries	21	1	1

#### 15 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts owed by subsidiary undertakings	7,455	3,546
Other debtors	17,387	18,490
Prepayments and accrued income	25,251	1,912
	50,093	23,948

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security	2,243	3,385
Trade creditors	15,301	12,621
Other creditors	31,373	27,270
Accruals and deferred income	15,425	15,423
	<u>64,342</u>	<u>58,699</u>

#### 17 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Defined contribution schemes</b>		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	2,866	3,409
	<u>2,866</u>	<u>3,409</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

#### 18 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Field Programmes	-	76,686	(222,401)	145,715	-
BPS	-	500	(10)	(490)	-
GB Appeals and General	-	3,734	(3,257)	(477)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>80,920</u>	<u>(225,668)</u>	<u>144,748</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>80,920</u>	<u>(225,668)</u>	<u>144,748</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Previous year:</b>	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Field Programmes	-	64,020	(264,642)	200,622	-
BPS	-	562	(10)	(552)	-
GB Appeals and General	-	10,163	(1,951)	(8,212)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>74,745</u>	<u>(266,603)</u>	<u>191,858</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>74,745</u>	<u>(266,603)</u>	<u>191,858</u>	<u>-</u>

The above projects represent donations received from individuals who have specified that the funds be used for a specific project. Note 6 details description of the various charitable activities undertaken.

# MUSIC FOR LIFE ACADEMY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 19 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	367,418	98,950	(76,134)	(144,748)	245,486
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Previous year:</b>	<b>At 1 April 2023 £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Transfers £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2024 £</b>
General funds	538,038	71,683	(50,445)	(191,858)	367,418
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

#### 20 Related party transactions

##### Subsidiary

During the year the charity recognised donations of £1,279 (2024 - £6,320) from its subsidiary, Music for Life Records Limited. At the balance sheet date an amount of £7,455 (2024 - £3,546) was due from Music for Life Records Limited.

#### 21 Subsidiaries

Details of the charity's subsidiaries at 31 March 2025 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held	
				Direct	Indirect
Music for Life Records Limited	England	Retail of African Children's Choir merchandise	Ordinary	100.00	

The aggregate capital and reserves and the result for the year of subsidiaries excluded from consolidation was as follows:

Name of undertaking	Profit/(Loss)	Capital and Reserves
	£	£
Music for Life Records Limited	-	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>