Home-Start Worldwide

Annual Report and Accounts 2025

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Home-Start Worldwide, a company Limited by Guarantee, company number 07371168

Registered charity in England and Wales number 1139678

Reference and Administrative Information

Company number	07371168 (England and Wales)
Charity number	1139678 (England and Wales)
Registered office	167 -169 Great Portland Street, Fifth Floor, London W1W 5PF
Trustees	The Trustees are also directors under company law. • Jacqueline Barnes: Chair • Oliver Hickson: Vice Chair • Ricky Maloney: Treasurer • Cornelia de Bruijn: Resigned 24/06/2025 • Reka Hegedus+ • Kate Grantham: From 01/10/2025 • Anthonius G. Kragten+ • Joan van Niekerk: • Yukie Yamada+ + indicates a member representative
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Members

The Members of Home-Start Worldwide were as follows:

Accredited Members:

Asociación Nieru para El Estudio y Promocion, Oviedo, Spain (16/12/2025)
Home-Start National Inc., Australia
Home-Start Domo vzw, Belgium
HOST Home-Start Czech Republic z.u.
Home-Start Familiekontakt, Denmark
Association Paseo, Nimes, France
Home-Start Hellas, Greece
Otthon Segitunk Alapítvány, Hungary
Home-Start Blanchardstown, Ireland
Home-Start Japan
The Foundation for Social Welfare Services, Malta
The Humanitas Association, The Netherlands
Home-Start Familiekontakten, Norway
Fundatia Adina Stiftelsen, Romania
Home-Start Uganda
Home-Start UK

Associate Members:

Home-Start Giriwanyu A.S.B.L, Burundi (Dormant, 16/12/2025)
Home-Start Morogoro Municipal, Tanzania (Dormant 16/12/2025)
Home-Start Zambia
Premier pas Champlain

Report of the Trustees	Page
Home-Start Overview	**5**
Home- Start	
Home-Start Worldwide Role and Mission	
Home-Start Values and Principles	
Structure, Governance and Management	
Strategic Planning	
Quality Assurance	
Key Evidence and Impact Research	
Home-Start Worldwide 2025	**12**
News from HSW membership	
How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit	**16**
Financial Review	**16**
Disclosure of information to the Independent Examiner	**17**
Report of the Independent Examiner	**18**
Statement of Financial Activities	**20**
Balance Sheet	**21**
Notes to the Accounts	**22**

Home-Start Overview

Home-Start Worldwide (HSW) is a membership organisation and long-established charity dedicated to supporting parents and strengthening parenting skills to promote early childhood development. Support is provided through regular home visits by trained volunteers, offered free of charge to families with children from pre-birth to school age. While the core focus is on the early years, some services also support older children, recognising that many families include children of varying ages.

The Home-Start model is delivered through 508 local schemes in 20 countries, embedded at the community level. Member organisations also engage in training, advocacy, and partnerships to extend their impact.

In 2025, just over 3,000 professionals and more that 18,000 volunteers supported over 67,000 families with 93,000 children. Volunteers offer emotional support, practical help, and friendship—helping to reduce isolation, strengthen family relationships, and enhance child development. Though family circumstances vary widely, the goal remains the same: to give every child a strong foundation for life, no matter where they are in the world.

To ensure consistently high standards, all volunteers making home-visits, running groups for parents or providing support in other ways receive thorough training and are supervised by local professional staff. Each member organisation undergoes a formal quality assurance assessment every three years, led by HSW. This process helps ensure that the Home-Start approach is delivered safely, effectively, and in line with shared values and standards across the global network.

Home-Start Worldwide Role and Mission

Most Home-Start schemes are locally incorporated, funded and managed, on a fully decentralized basis. By 1999 there was a need to coordinate the expanding international network. Home-Start Worldwide has grown from that.

Most Home-Start schemes are led by a national office. The Home-Start Worldwide mission is to support these national organisations, manage the name and Home-Start branding, facilitate connections between member countries and assist new countries develop, to help more families and children.

Under the current structure, the national offices are members of Home-Start Worldwide and represent their country's schemes in this role. Membership of Home-Start Worldwide allows the use of the Home-Start name and defines the HSW role.

In addition to their national supervision, most national offices support the development of new services to meet local needs. Accordingly, Home-Start Worldwide helps members with policy advice, promotion, training and development and shares member good practice between them. It also promotes the service internationally, helps train the coordinators of new members to set up and develop evidence of impact. Retraining is offered when there is the need for updating with new

knowledge and skills. Working groups and webinars are offered to members during the year to advance the work of the members.

The members cover a wide range of family needs, and they align differently to the United Nations SDG Goals. However, the key SDG goal is the provision of quality early childhood development, SDG 4.2 and SDG 17, the need to work in partnerships. Home-Start worldwide and its members focus on enhancing parenting skills to ensure a childhood free from violence and abuse.

Home-Start Worldwide recognises and supports diversities such as differing family structures and cultures. This is reflected in its membership and the Board of Trustees. Across five continents and multiple partnerships common values and principles are core but the expression of these within diverse populations remains focussed on the best interests of the child. Members are differently focused and differently funded and structured.

Early childhood development remains a key concern of UNICEF and the World Health Organization. It remains the core intention of the HSW ethos, which focuses on equipping parents to ensure the best possible early childhood for their children. The early years of childhood are often difficult to manage, particularly for parents who may be without support and facing challenges such as poverty, single parenting, conflict within the home and in their community and country.

Home-Start Values and Principles

Home-Start members and their schemes respect the rights of the child, as expressed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the principles of equal opportunity, fairness, diversity and gender equality in all aspects of their work. They must also respect the identity and rights of each person and family and oppose any discrimination based on gender, ethnic origin, culture, religion, political affiliation, nationality, family circumstance and sexual orientation.

Confidentiality to protect the best interests of the child and integrity of the family is a key principle of service provision. All Home-Start members, HSW staff and Board trustees are required to sign a commitment to safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons policy and members are required to adapt this core policy to their own country laws and policies on safeguarding.

Structure, Governance and Management

Home-Start Worldwide is a charity registered with the Charities Commission in England and Wales, Charity Number 1139678. It is also a company limited by guarantee, incorporated under the Companies Act 2006 as a private company in England & Wales, Company Number 07371168.

The company was incorporated on 9 September 2010 and registered with the Charities Commission on 4 January 2011. At that time the assets of Home-Start International (HSI) (charity number 1076991) were transferred to Home-Start Worldwide.

In late 2017, membership of Home-Start Worldwide was extended to a representative of each of the countries which run Home-Start schemes, usually the national office, subject to terms set down in the Home-Start Worldwide Members' Charter. Member Associations guarantee to contribute an amount

not exceeding £1 in the event of a winding down.

Members become fully accredited, with the right to vote, provided they are structured as independent, locally registered, voluntary organisations and meet Quality Assurance standards. Associate Members generally have a maximum 3 years to become accredited. In exceptional circumstances they can be designated as 'Dormant' but retain their associate membership. All Members Organizations sign a Statement of Acceptance of the terms of the Members' Charter. They are also required to run their operations from the one country from which they initially register.

The Board of Trustees of HSW assumes the strategic direction and leadership of the Charity, subject to the terms of the Members' Charter. Members are expected to participate in projects, policy development and decision-making and must subscribe to the Core HSW Principles and HSW Child Protection and Safeguarding Standards. Otherwise, they retain complete control of their local finances and scheme management.

Trustee Composition and Recruitment

The Articles of Association envisaged a board of a maximum 15 people, comprising member representatives and independent experts. Member representatives ensure a continuing focus on network needs. The existing Board consists of 8 members to enable more productive Board meetings. There is a balance of independent and member representatives.

Member Representatives are nominated by the Home-Start national associations or may be approached by the Board Nominations Committee, who then interview and assess the nominated members, followed by a recommendation by the Nominations Committee to the Board and, if appropriate, approval by the HSW Board. However, Trustee appointments and resignations are finally approved by Members at the Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees serve for three years, after which they may be put forward for re-appointment for a second term and, exceptionally, a third. The HSW Members' Charter develops the board role in detail. All Trustees complete a Register of Interests and sign the HSW Child Protection Policy.

The HSW Board seeks diversity in terms of trustee profile, skills and location. International experience is important, given the nature of the work. However, future Board Members will be sought for specific skill and knowledge sets required by HSW. Four Trustee Meetings were held in 2025. Board committees submit board briefings to each Trustee Meeting and draft HSW policy where needed. The Trustees also form work groups as needed.

Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing an annual report and 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 income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

- State whether applicable UK accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

HSW Office Management

Office leadership remained contracted on two days a week in 2025. The CEO has shown exceptional commitment to serving the network and finding support to sustain the HSW office. With long experience as a Home-Start UK scheme leader, she is also ideally placed to select, lead and ensure an effective team.

Funding constraints place a heavy burden on the HSW Chief Executive Officer. Hired staff are also part-time, contracted for a number of hours per week depending on available budget. They have responsibility for assisting with fundraising, communications and branding. The HSW Board is grateful to the volunteers who assist with office, administrative and fundraising activities. The volunteers are sourced, trained and managed by the CEO.

The HSW office received support from five volunteers skilled in research, graphics, digital content, fundraising and IT. Three advisory roles were established to strengthen the HSW Trustee Board. However talented people on short-term contracts will inevitably come and go, as they find opportunities elsewhere. It is essential to secure funding for permanent staff to enable greater continuity, provide more training opportunities and address the fundraising challenges.

Fundraising

Historically, Home-Start Worldwide's funding has been secured primarily through trusts and foundations. However, fundraising has become increasingly challenging in a climate of economic uncertainty, competing global priorities and ongoing conflict.

In response, and with pro bono support from Cranfield Trust, HSW developed a fundraising strategy aligned with its three-year strategic plan, focused on diversifying income from a wider range of sources and reducing reliance on grant funding. While this work is still at an early stage, there have been some encouraging developments.

In 2025, HSW secured a place in the London Marathon and a commitment for four places annually over the next four years, creating a new source of unrestricted income. HSW also tested approaches to corporate fundraising through a short period of support from a specialist agency, helping to build

knowledge and capability in this area.

HSW secured funding from Picnic Technologies' Employee Christmas Giving Campaign, which will support Home-Start organisations in the Netherlands and France to strengthen support for fathers and families.

The charity receives occasional personal donations, although these are not actively solicited. HSW is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO),and is a member of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising. No government or local authority grants were received during the year, and apart from Picnic Technologies, no funding was received from outside the UK other than membership fees. No fundraising complaints were received.

Finance Policies and Financial Controls

HSW has a simple structure. Financial management is handled by the Board Treasurer, with the HSW CEO as a second signatory, and governed by the HSW Finance Policies and Procedures which were reviewed in the year under review. The HSW Investment Policy is reviewed annually, in line with the latest board risk assessment, and was updated in August 2025. All assets have so far been held in cash, with due regard to the counterparty risk. Since 2021, the minimum reserve requirement has been set at 6 months of planned outgoings. Finance Policies require the use of the regulated banking system for transfers outside England and Wales.

Conflicts of Interest

The avoidance of conflicts is covered in detail in the Declaration of Willingness to serve as a Trustee and in the HSW Conflict of Interest Policy. Trustees also sign a Register of Interests, which covers connected persons and is regularly updated. Trustees are asked to table a potential conflict of interest at the start of each Trustee Meeting and to advise of other board positions.

Risk Management

The HSW Trustees acknowledge their responsibility to identify, assess and manage risks to the operation of the Charity and to the reputation of the network worldwide. There is an approved Risk Management Policy and an active Risk Register to which all Trustees and the CEO are asked to contribute. The Risk Register is reviewed and updated annually by the Board.

The HSW Membership

There were 16 fully Accredited Members and 4 Associate Members at year-end. Six of the Accredited Members have been running for at least 30 years and HSW takes pride in the very long service of several key players there.

The 3-year ceiling on associate membership has challenged a few members, especially those with limited resources. The Members' Charter was reviewed as the 3-year limitation has proved problematic, particularly for African members. A category of Associate but dormant was agreed and assigned to two of the African members. Membership allows Home-Start countries to develop and share the standards of practice they must follow, and to raise their profile and protect their name through association with a worldwide group. The Annual General Meeting took place in December 2025 via a Teams video call.

Strategic planning

The Newly developed three-year Strategic plan has guided activities in 2025. HSW, in common with charities more generally, has faced a challenging period in recent history due to factors such as the effects of the global Covid 19 pandemic, the cost-of-living crisis and geopolitical instabilities. These factors place an even greater emphasis on the work Home-Start members perform working with families and pre-school children in many parts of the world, supported by HSW. The impact of these factors has been particularly acute in the families that Home-Start works with, who face many kinds of adversity.

Against this backdrop, HSW has continued with its mission to support, quality assure and grow Home-Start operations in the different countries during 2025. However, HSW is suffering from chronic issues relating to funding which, if not resolved, threaten its existence over the medium term.

The most urgent need identified during the strategic planning process was for unrestricted funding so that the HSW office leadership has sufficient administrative, data management and communications infrastructure to enable all the activities associated with member support to be accomplished. The funding constraints mean the level of resources available to HSW to deliver what it, and the international members, expect is insufficient with negative consequences.

Fundraising depends in part on demonstrating impact, both in each member country and across the whole network, and work is underway on creating a common framework and data collection process for impact measurement, without which there is not a credible proposition to take to funders and publicise the great work or HSW.

Starting in 2025 and ongoing until 2027, the Home-Start Worldwide (HSW) strategy has focussed on six key priorities:

- Securing HSW's sustainability by revising the current member financial model and adopting a new fundraising strategy that draws on more diverse funding sources. Success in this area will enable HSW to allocate more resources toward its wider goals.
- Consolidating and strengthening existing national operations rather than pursuing further geographic expansion.
- Investing in data and impact—expanding the data collection process, supporting research and analysis, and enhancing how impact is measured and presented, all underpinned by improved use of technology.
- Engaging larger, more mature national operations more closely in the global network and inviting them to take on a greater leadership role.
- Supporting less mature national operations with greater investment, ensuring they are more viable and sustainable in the long term.
- Strengthening the Board of Trustees by bringing in individuals with expertise in fundraising, research, technology, and data analytics to help drive forward these strategic priorities.

Triennial Conference of Members

One of the benefits of membership of HSW has been attendance at the triennial conference, bringing all members together to share successes, to meet delegates and to learn about the activities taking place in other countries. In the past these meetings have been in-person but due to circumstances experienced by the member who was to host, an on-line conference was organised. Lasting for a week, with sessions in morning and afternoon, it had 129 attendees from all 20 member countries. All presentations and associated materials were made available on a dedicated website, and this was widely used to access recordings and other resources.

Quality Assurance

Ensuring a quality Home-Start service in each member country is based on a Quality Assurance process conducted by HSW Trustees and Advisors, that reinforces the Home-Start core values and principles and practices. As part of the Quality Assurance, it is ensured that national offices quality assure their own member schemes.

The 2023 Quality Assurance cycle continued into 2025. The Quality Assurance HSW team sought the active involvement of member boards during the follow up to the country QA reports. The majority of QAs were completed in 2024 and the final two in 2025. Following on from completion of questionnaires, the Country member interviews identified the need for improved compliance with core requirements and ongoing supervision. Some reported issues with aspects of the process that required aspects such as websites and challenging with limited funds.

Recommendations subsequent to the process mainly related to member websites, more specifically updating member board composition, annual reports and financial reports. Some recommendations related to safeguarding procedures and the use of quality assurance in the member schemes.

A decision was made, following discussion by the Board, that the QA details were in need to revision and it was decided to halt the QA process in 2026 to seek out member and Board views on how to make the process appropriate but also less time consuming given the heavy burden placed on Board members and the reduced capacity of the trustee Board.

Key Evidence and Impact Research

Evidence of the impact of the Home-Start service is essential for accountability and securing ongoing funding. Home-Start Worldwide has an active Research Committee, chaired by Professor Jacqueline Barnes. The committee leads the development of Home-Start's research agenda. Its recent activities are outlined below, focusing primarily on developing ways to demonstrate impact across all members, and also showcasing and sharing research conducted by members, sharing methods.

The Outcome measurement pilot study

Following support from the Royal Statistical Society data scientist, in 2024 five HS members, Hungary, Malta, Norway, Romania and Spain were involved in piloting an Outcomes Measurement. The survey is

brief, just five questions and covers maternal well-being and connections to services and support at the start of Home-Start support. The questions were repeated in January 2025 to look at change over six months. The results were encouraging. Parents reported feeling significantly more supported, more confident in their parenting role, better equipped to manage daily stress, and more connected to their communities and local services. These changes were not only substantial but also statistically significant across all five outcome areas. While of course this research does not have a control group, families not receiving Home-Start Support, the results are strongly suggestive of real-life improvements in families' experiences. Plans have been made to extend the research with more member countries in 2026.

Analysis of longitudinal data held by Adina Stiftelsen (HS Romania)

Home-Start Romania has documented the development and attainment of children in the families they have supported for 20 years in a range of programmes for school-aged in addition to Home-Start. A study was undertaken in May and June 2025, in collaboration with a local university in Craiova and Professor Jacqueline Barnes, to establish whether Home-Start visiting in the pre-school stage has any benefit in the longer term and for older children within the family. One of the most important findings of the study is that Home-Start reaches children very early in life. More than half of the children joined the programme before the age of six, a period known to be critical for emotional, social, and cognitive development. This early involvement highlights Home-Start's strong preventive role. When interviewed in their teens, the young people saw the experience of Home-Start as an important turning point in their lives. Several explained that the volunteer arrived during a difficult period and provided emotional stability, encouragement, and practical guidance. They spoke about gaining confidence, learning responsibility, improving family communication, and staying connected to education or work.

Highlighting Members' research

Research studies can be important in fund-raising. Studies carried out by Australia, the Czech Republic, and Greece formed a highlight of the final day of the on-line conference, inspiring other members to conduct their own research. Research materials and findings were shared on the Conference website.

News from HSW membership

Network members organisational updates are included where submissions were received by the publication deadline.

Home-Start Australia

In 2025, Home-Start Australia secured its first Primary Health Network grant to pilot the Home-Start Phoenix Project, supporting families recovering from domestic and family violence in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie, New South Wales. Specially trained and professionally supervised volunteers provide practical, emotional and social support in the home, helping parents and children rebuild confidence, resilience, wellbeing and connection after crisis. Independent early evaluation activity is capturing the project's impact on family recovery and demonstrating the power of trusted, compassionate volunteer support at a critical stage in families' lives.

Home-Start Belgium, Flanders

In 2025, Home-Start Belgium continued to provide valued support to families through its network of family buddies, offering consistent, relationship-based support in the home. The year also brought significant challenges, with several programmes closing at the end of the year due to severe local authority budget cuts. As a result, Home-Start Belgium will no longer be able to support 75 families through those services. Despite these pressures, Home-Start Belgium remains committed to prevention: providing long-term, weekly support that gives families breathing space, helps reduce stress before it escalates, and can prevent the need for more intensive services later on. Prevention is not always visible, but its absence is quickly felt.

Home-Start Burundi

Despite significant funding challenges that prevented regular programme delivery in 2025, Home-Start Burundi remained committed to supporting vulnerable families. Drawing on the dedication of local volunteers and members, the organisation provided Christmas food parcels, clothing, and hygiene items to 30 single-parent families with young children, ensuring they could celebrate alongside their wider communities. The year also provided an opportunity to assess future needs and plan for the strengthening and sustainability of family support services in Burundi.

Home-Start in Canada

In 2025–2026, Home-Start Champlain (Premiers Pas Champlain) celebrated 35 years of supporting families across Quebec. The organisation continued to provide home-based family support, language and child development programmes, and practical community assistance through a dedicated team of volunteers. Working in partnership with schools, health services and community organisations, Home-Start Champlain strengthened its reach to immigrant and vulnerable families while remaining an active member of the Home-Start Worldwide network. Despite ongoing funding pressures across the community sector, the organisation continued to develop its services and plan for future growth, including new specialist support for children with additional needs.

Home-Start Czech Republic

strengthened its organisational capacity through improved systems and processes, helping ensure resources remain focused on supporting children and families. The organisation also developed new partnerships and explored more flexible volunteering opportunities while responding to increasing demand, volunteer recruitment challenges, and uncertainty in public funding

Home-Start Denmark

2025 was a landmark year of growth and recognition for Home-Start Denmark, as it marked its 20th anniversary and saw volunteer numbers increase by almost 14%. Families continued to report strong impact, with 96% saying they would recommend Home-Start to others. The anniversary year also brought increased national recognition from the Danish Government, with Home-Start Denmark securing a higher annual government grant of DKK 4 million from 2026 to 2029. Despite some local funding pressures, this stronger foundation will support future reach, national visibility and sustainable growth while protecting Home-Start's close, relationship-based model.

Home-Start France/Paseo

In 2025, Paseo/Home-Start France strengthened its support for families while managing significant administrative and operational pressures. The organisation consolidated services to safeguard quality and

sustainability, expanded its fatherhood programme, “A father today, a father forever… and everywhere”, through wider partnerships, and received regional recognition for its girls’ empowerment initiative, which won second prize in the Gard Department Gender Equality Competition. During a period of serious local community challenges, Paseo also worked with public authorities to help relocate nearly 160 people to safety. Support from institutions, corporate and philanthropic partners, including the BNP Paribas Foundation and the Lions Club of Nîmes, helped sustain innovative projects and deepen local impact, while Paseo prepared a refreshed strategy ahead of its 20th anniversary.

Home-Start Greece, Hellas

In 2025, Home-Start Hellas received national recognition through the President of the Republic’s “Islands of Quality” Award and expanded its impact through the European PREVENT programme. Innovative storytelling, podcast and professional training activities helped promote violence prevention, engage children, parents and professionals, and strengthen partnerships across Greece. The organisation also brought local families together through a community Christmas event for children experiencing poverty.

Home-Start in Hungary

Home-Start Hungary’s key achievements in 2025 included sustaining its network of 25 local branches, strengthening volunteer recruitment and coordinator development, building new local partnerships, and delivering family programmes, support groups and a Parent–Child Camp. The year also saw continued investment in community engagement, professional collaboration and international knowledge sharing through Home-Start Worldwide.

Home-Start Blanchardstown, Ireland

Home-Start Blanchardstown continued to strengthen its support for families in 2025, with new volunteers completing preparation training and the service moving to fuller support for children and families. The team deepened its community engagement through informal activities such as Walk and Talk Mondays, while building partnerships with local perinatal and young parent support services. Staff also invested in training around attachment, trauma-informed practice and coercive control, reflecting the increasingly complex needs families are facing, including more families living in homeless hubs.

Home-Start Japan

Home-Start Japan celebrated an important year of growth, learning and advocacy in 2025. With support from the Japan Foundation, 13 new local Home-Start schemes were established, bringing support to more families and communities across the country. The organisation also strengthened its evidence base through research and a survey of families who had received Home-Start support, with around 450 responses highlighting both the challenges families face and the positive difference Home-Start makes in their lives. Further recognition came from interviews with Health Visitors, who identified Home-Start as an effective service that fills important gaps in support provision for families. Home-Start Japan also shared its experience and expertise at the JASPCAN conference, championing the importance of early intervention and the role of Home-Start in helping to prevent child abuse. Together, these achievements highlight Home-Start Japan's growing influence as a trusted provider of early intervention support and its commitment to ensuring that more children and families receive the help they need to thrive.

Home-Start Malta

Home-Start Malta and Gozo continued to provide valued, family-centred support during 2025, despite operating on a modest scale. The year saw renewed focus on coordinator development, volunteer recruitment and training, and closer engagement with referrers to understand families' needs. Support centred on parenting confidence, practical help, budgeting skills and emotional reassurance, delivered mainly through home visiting. Family activities in Malta and Gozo also helped promote positive parenting, child development and social connection, while feedback from parents highlighted the difference that consistent volunteer support can make in helping families feel seen, supported and less alone.

Home-Start Netherlands

In 2025, Home-Start Netherlands strengthened recognition of the value of informal, volunteer-led support, including through a visit from the State Secretary and new research highlighting the unique contribution of volunteers. Research also demonstrated positive outcomes for new parents, including stronger parent-child relationships, increased parental confidence and wider social networks. Home-Start launched Ouder-Start, a new group programme supporting parents during their baby's first year, and joined a major national alliance for informal support for children, young people and families. Funding from the Kinderpostzegels Foundation and Picnic will support further activities in 2026.

Home-Start Norway

Home-Start Norway celebrated its 30th anniversary, marking three decades of volunteer-led support for families with young children. The milestone year highlighted the strength of local community partnerships, the dedication of volunteers, and the lasting value of early, relationship-based family support across 49 regions. Alongside national celebrations and awareness-raising, Home-Start Norway strengthened quality systems, developed digital tools for coordinators, and invested in volunteer recruitment. It also advanced a national research project examining the impact of Home-Start services and implemented its first national advocacy strategy, contributing to discussions on early intervention, family wellbeing and sustainable funding for preventive family support.

Home-Start Romania

Home-Start Romania continued to support vulnerable families living in rural areas of Dolj through Adina Stiftelsen Foundation, offering trusted, relationship-based practical and emotional support to parents and children. In 2025, Romania also contributed to HSW's wider learning through the Data Outcome Pilot and a 10-year study with the University of Craiova and Home-Start Worldwide, helping strengthen evidence of the Home-Start model's longer-term impact. Strong local partnerships with schools, social services, local authorities, the University of Craiova and community organisations helped connect isolated families with wider support, while volunteer development, including Circle of Security™ training, strengthened the quality of family support.

Home-Start Spain

2025 was a significant year of growth and consolidation for Home-Start Spain. The original schemes in Albacete and Gipuzkoa continued to strengthen their support for local families, while two new schemes were launched in Toledo and Laredo — bringing the total number of Home-Start schemes in Spain to four, across three autonomous regions. Interest also grew in Navarre and Asturias, creating further opportunities for expansion in 2026. Home-Start Spain's profile continued to rise nationally and internationally. The team contributed to the Home-Start Worldwide Outcomes Pilot, generating Spain's first nationally collected outcome data and strengthening the evidence base for early intervention and

family support. They also presented the Home-Start model at a roundtable in Madrid, the Eusarf Conference in Zagreb, and the Home-Start Worldwide Triennial Conference. Other key milestones included the launch of the official Home-Start Spain website and successful completion of the Home-Start Worldwide Quality Assessment, confirming Home-Start Spain as an accredited member organisation.

Home-Start Tanzania

2025 was a quieter year for Home-Start Tanzania, with limited home visiting while the organisation prepared for a fresh start. It is now exploring a more sustainable volunteer model, rooted in local communities and able to rebuild support for families gradually.

Home-Start Uganda

In partnership with Home-Start Uganda and a researcher from the Royal Statistical Society, HSW analysed nutrition data from 110 children participating in a community nutrition programme in two previous years. The study tracked children's growth over 10 months, generating valuable evidence on undernutrition and recovery. The findings are helping strengthen nutrition support for vulnerable families and informing future programme development across the Home-Start network.

Home-Start Zambia

Home-Start Zambia continued to support vulnerable families through home-visiting, counselling and group support activities, helping parents facing poverty, family challenges and other complex circumstances. During the year, the organisation played an active role in a consortium working with government partners to strengthen child protection efforts in the country.

How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that in exercising their powers, they have complied with the guidance on public benefit and that all activities are undertaken to further our charitable purpose for the public benefit. Although Home-Start Worldwide itself does not provide direct services to beneficiaries, we set minimum standards of practice for member organisations worldwide. Such standards require that core services are provided free of charge and that they ensure respect of key principles, including non-discrimination, equal opportunity, confidentiality and impose HSW standards of child protection and safeguarding, for children and vulnerable persons.

Financial Review

Principal Funding Sources

Home-Start Worldwide has a continuing source of income from Member Fees, which are levied based on Member size as detailed in the Members' Charter. Otherwise, Trusts and Foundations continued as the principal source of funds. These had been secured by the HSW Office, with support from a Board Committee.

Income

Total Income was £37,854 in 2025, down £1,785 on the previous year. Membership fees of £13,750 were received for which we are very grateful. The office billed a further £175 for member training and support. Restricted grants totalling £10,000 were received. This was to support the office from the Tedworth Charitable Trust. An additional £13,929 was received by way of donations, from the London Marathon participant, and from Picnic Technologies.

Expenditure

Expenditure increased to £59,788 in 2025. Reserves were reduced by £21,934. Office staff costs were £24,567, down on 2024, reflecting the need of the office to adjust expenditure relative to projected income. The investment in diversifying income streams has added to expenditure but will hopefully yield results in 2026.

Current Investment Overview

Reserves at year end were £48,631, down from £70,565 the previous year. Balances were held in bank deposits throughout the year, with a maturity of three months or less and there was no foreign currency exposure at year-end.

Investment Policy

The Home-Start Worldwide Investment Policy permits a wide range of investments and is reviewed annually by the Board. However, capital preservation and liquidity remain the major objectives. Should funding materially increase, the Investment policy will be reviewed. The international work of the Charity sometime results in some foreign exchange exposure, especially in a Conference year. While the Articles are silent on foreign currency, the Board allows the Charity to both raise and disburse funds, and hold bank accounts in foreign currencies, where justified, provided that sovereign and currency risks have been thoroughly assessed.

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

The Trustees hold reserves in order to protect the continuity of the Charity's work, manage fluctuations in income and provide capital to finance expansion. In 2022 the Board approved Operating Cost Reserves sufficient to meet six months' operating expenditure, including inflation. This will be actively managed as funding becomes more diversified. The designated reserves are reviewed as plans change.

Disclosure of Information to Independent Examiner

The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime. So far as each trustee is aware, there is no relevant information, being information needed by the independent examiner in connection with preparing their report, of which the independent examiner is unaware, and each trustee has taken all steps that s/he ought to have taken to make her/himself aware of any relevant matters and to ensure that the

company's independent examiner is aware of such information. Such steps include making inquiries of other trustees and the independent examiner and other steps required by the trustees' duty to exercise due care and skill.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on ** August 2026 and signed on their behalf by the Chair.

Signed by:
Jacqueline Barnes
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Jacqueline Barnes
Chair and Trustee/Director

Independent Examiner's Report
To The Trustees of Home-Start Worldwide
Year Ended 31 December 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Home-Start Worldwide (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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 charity as required by section 386 of the 2006
2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3 the financial statements 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
4 the financial statements 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

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 financial statements to be reached.

Lorraine Curtis
Independent Examiner
The Retreat
406 Roding Lane South
Woodford Green
Essex
IG8 8EY

Dated:

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
		£	£	£	£
Income:					
Donations and grants	3	13,929	10,000	**23,929**	25,048
Income from charitable activities	4	13,925	-	**13,925**	14,591
Total incoming resources		27,854	10,000	**37,854**	39,639
Expenditure:					
Costs of raising funds	5	17,372	-	**17,372**	13,372
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	32,416	10,000	**42,416**	39,305
Total expenditure		49,788	10,000	**59,788**	52,677
Net income (expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		(21,934)	-	**(21,934)**	(13,038)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2025		70,565	-	**70,565**	83,603
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2025	16	48,631	-	**48,631**	70,565

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 21 to 28 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2025
Company number: 07371168

	Note	2025	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets	9	-	-
Current assets			
Cash at bank	10	50,402	72,415
Sundry debtors	11	-	-
		50,402	72,415
Current liabilities			
Sundry creditors and accruals	12	(1,771)	(1,850)
Net current assets		48,631	70,565
Total assets less current liabilities		**48,631**	**70,565**
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds	16	48,631	70,565
Restricted income funds	16	-	-
Total charity funds		**48,631**	**70,565**

For the year ending 31 December 2025, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS 102 SORP.

Approved by the Trustees on ……

Signed by: Jacqueline Barnes
Jacqueline Barnes
Chair and Trustee Director

Signed by: Ricky Maloney
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Ricky Maloney
Treasurer and Trustee Director

The notes on pages 22 to 28 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the accounts

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation and uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

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) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Home-Start Worldwide meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the Charity.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

Home-Start Worldwide recorded a deficit of £21,934 (2024: £13,038) for the year and have net assets at the end of the year of £48,631 (2024: £70,565) being unrestricted income funds of £48,631 (2024: £70,565). The trustees are of the view that the level of income and assets of the company is sufficient for it to carry on its activities for the foreseeable future and that on this basis the company is a going concern.

c) Income

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the monetary value of the incoming funds can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grant income is recognised in accordance with the terms of the grant and is included in the financial statements in the year received.

Donations are credited to income when receivable. Gift aid in respect of donations is credited to the year in which the donation was receivable.

d) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the salary cost of a part-time employed fundraiser
- Expenditure on charitable activities comprise costs incurred in the pursuit of the charitable objectives of the charity.
- Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice including costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Where costs cannot be directly attributed to specific headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity, and as such is included as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred

e) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes or objectives of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

f) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less.

g) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

h) Fixed assets

Computers are capitalised at cost and written off over their estimated useful life, four years.

2. Legal status of the company

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

3. Income from donations and grants

	2025	2024
	£	£
Restricted donations and grants	10,000	22,500
Unrestricted donations and grants	13,929	2,548
	23,929	**25,048**

The income from donations and grants was £23,929 (2024: £25,048) of which £13,929 was unrestricted (2024: £2,548) and £10,000 was restricted (2024: £22,500).

Restricted donations received in the year 2025 consisted of £10,000 from the Tedworth Charitable Trust and was used to support the Communications and Network Development Lead.

4 Income from charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Training Courses	175	450
Network contributions – membership fees and other contributions	13,750	14,141
	13,925	**14,591**

Network contributions are annual membership fees paid by member organisations of the Home-Start network and are unrestricted.

5 Costs of raising funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
Costs of raising funds	17,372	13,372
	17,372	13,372

Costs of raising funds are the salary cost of a F employed fundraiser and a percentage of the CEO's salary

6 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£
Subscriptions	645	485
Bank charges	398	398
Staff costs	24,567	29,041
Office costs	715	1,093
Travel	681	-
IT costs (principally website)	161	1,078
Governance costs (note 7)	2,028	1,284
Marketing and comms	13,221	5,500
Depreciation	-	250
Sundry expenses	-	176
	42,416	**39,305**

7 Analysis of governance costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Insurance	335	330
Professional charges	673	488
Cost of trustee meetings	-	-
Independent examination fee	1,020	466
	2,028	**1,284**

8 Staff numbers, staff costs and trustee remuneration and expenses

Total employment costs for the year including employer pension contributions, were £34,118 (2024: £40,185).

The average number of employees during the year was one (2024: one). During the year ended 31 December 2025 there was one full-time and one part-time employee.

The key management personnel comprise the trustees and the Chief Executive Officer. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £34,118 (2024: £39,030)

The Trustees received no remuneration for their services, and no travel expenses for Board meetings were reimbursed (2024: nil)

9 Fixed Assets

	£
COST:	
At 1 January 2025	998
Additions in the year	-
At 31 December 2025	998
DEPRECIATION:	
At 1 January 2025	998
Charge for the period	-
At 31 December 2025	998
NET BOOK VALUE:	
At 31 December 2025	-
At 31 December 2024	-

10 Cash at Bank

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank account	50,309	72,322
PayPal	93	93
	50,402	**72,415**

11 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Debtors	-	-
	-	**-**

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Sundry creditors and accruals	1,771	1,850
	1,771	**1,850**

13 Related Party transactions

The charity trustees were not paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the Charity in the year (2024: £nil). No reimbursements were made to trustees during the year in respect of expenses incurred by the trustees for the benefit of the charity, alternative methods such as a company debit card not being available (2024: One reimbursement to a trustee amounting to £176)

14 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

15 Post-balance sheet events

There are no reportable post-balance sheet events.

16 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1.1.2025	Incoming resources	Transfer from General Fund	Resources expended	Balance at 31.12.2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Fund: Operating Cost Reserve	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
Designated Fund: Conference	14,000	-	-	-	14,000
Designated Fund: Development	1,242	-	-	-	1,242
General Fund	25,323	27,854	-	(49,788)	3,389
	70,565	**27,854**	**-**	**(49,788)**	**48,631**

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds – previous year

	Balance at 1.1.2024	Incoming resources	Transfer from General Fund	Resources expended	Balance at 31.12.2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Fund: Operating Cost Reserve	41,000	-	(11,000)	-	30,000
Designated Fund: Conference	14,000	-	-	-	14,000
Designated Fund: Development	2,057	-	-	(815)	1,242
General Fund	10,171	17,139	11,000	(12,987)	25,323
	67,228	**17,139**	**-**	**(13,802}**	**70,565**

Our reserves policy is to maintain 6-months operational running costs, equating to £24.000. This is for the unlikely event of having to wind-up the charity.

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1.1.2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31.12.2025
	£	£	£	£
The Tedworth Charitable Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
Joffe Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-
The Alchemy Foundation	-	-	-	-
	-	**10,000**	**(10,000)**	**-**

Analysis of movements in restricted funds – previous year

	Balance at 1.1.2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31.12.2024 £
The Tedworth Charitable Trust	5,000	10,000	(15,000)	-
Joffe Charitable Trust	8,250	-	(8,250)	-
The Alchemy Foundation	3,125	12,500	(15,625)	-
	16,375	**22,500**	**(38,875)**	**-**

The restricted funds received are in respect of:

Tedworth Charitable Trust to employ Comms support and Learning & Development Lead
Joffe Charitable Trust to employ CEO for organisational development
Alchemy Foundation for Fundraising and Business Development Support