

HOME START York

2025-26 ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS



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WHO'S WHO

STAFF TEAM 2025 - 26



Maria Farrar
Scheme Manager



Eleanor Carswell
Administrator



Susan Deery
Family Support Coordinator



Adele Hunter
Family Support Coordinator



SUPPORTING FAMILIES SINCE 1988

ABOUT HOME-START YORK

Parenting is rewarding, but it isn't always easy.

At Home-Start York, we understand that life can bring pressures that make family life harder than it should be. When things feel difficult, we're here to help.

We support families with children under five, offering a friendly, confidential service that helps parents give their little ones the best possible start.

Our volunteers are carefully recruited and trained and every one of them brings lived experience of parenthood. Volunteers visit families at home each week, bringing time, care and a listening ear. No judgement. They don't come to advise or assess. They come to support, encourage and walk alongside families. Genuine, practical support from people who understand what parenting really feels like.

The impact is real and lasting, for children's development and for parents' own health and wellbeing.

We work alongside families who are finding parenting a challenge, whether that's due to loneliness, low mood, illness, disability or simply the weight of too much happening at once. We don't wait for crisis point. We believe early support makes all the difference, to children and to families.

Home-Start York is an independent local charity, founded in 1988 and part of the national Home-Start UK network. We're responsible for our own work and our own community, and we're proud of both.



MANAGER'S REPORT

Maria Farrar



Home-Start York Annual Impact Report

Over the past year, Home-Start York has continued to provide vital, early intervention support to families across the city, making a meaningful and lasting difference to the lives of parents and young children. At the heart of this work is a strong commitment to prevention, compassion, and community, ensuring families receive the help they need before challenges escalate into crisis.

A key strength of Home-Start York is its exceptional team of volunteers, who bring a wealth of professional and lived experience. Our volunteers comprise of individuals from diverse backgrounds such as teaching, therapy, consultancy and healthcare including, nursing, GPs and mental health professionals.

Alongside this, our charity continues to welcome people at different stages of life, from those beginning their careers to those approaching retirement, creating a rich and supportive environment where skills, knowledge, and experiences are shared. This diversity strengthens the quality of support offered to families while also providing volunteers with valuable insight into the realities faced by parents experiencing difficulties.

The staff team at Home-Start York also brings a broad and highly relevant skillset, with backgrounds in nursing, mental health, early years, and voluntary sector leadership. This combination ensures that families receive well-rounded, informed, and empathetic support tailored to their individual needs.

Training, supervision and support has remained a cornerstone of the organisation's success. Over the past year, volunteers have engaged in impactful and relevant training programmes. These sessions use case studies and real-life scenarios to deepen understanding of the complex challenges families face today, including poverty, ill health, domestic abuse, and social isolation. This approach not only builds confidence but ensures that support remains responsive, practical, and grounded in real-world experience.

Volunteers support families in establishing routines, promoting healthy child development and building confidence in parenting. Practical guidance is offered on everyday issues such as feeding, toileting, and creating safe play environments, as well as managing screen time and setting age-appropriate boundaries. These small but significant interventions help parents feel more in control and better equipped to meet their children's needs.

Importantly, this preventative approach has a wider impact on health and public services. By supporting families to attend medical appointments, including GP, dental, and health visitor visits, Home-Start York helps ensure children's health needs are met early. This not only benefits families but also contributes to easing pressure on already stretched services.

Throughout the year, Home-Start York has remained dedicated to its mission to stand alongside families, offering support that is non-judgemental, compassionate, and empowering. The combined efforts of staff and volunteers have enabled families to build resilience, improve wellbeing, and create more stable and nurturing home environments.

This year's work demonstrates the profound impact that early, community-based support can have. Home-Start York continues to be a vital part of the local support network, helping families not only cope, but thrive.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Sandra Furby MBE

Welcome to our annual report providing an update on our activities for the year April 2025 to March 2026. I hope you find it interesting. It has been a difficult time for families with the ongoing cost of living crisis, the energy price hikes and concern for everyone about the instability in other parts of the world. Our families often need someone to listen to their concerns about a range of issues and to provide reassurance. The strength of this project is the range of skills of our excellent team of volunteers and staff who continue to provide support to families across York. My heartfelt thanks go to them for the fantastic commitment and dedication that they put into providing support for York families. My thanks also goes to all those who have provided funding this year and the other charities and benefactors that support us through other initiatives . We rely on their support to enable us to provide the service that is clearly needed. We are very proud of the feedback we get from families and from other agencies and we receive many messages complimenting our role in serving the needs of the community.

The Board of Trustees has seen some changes this year. We said goodbye to Sarah Blower who was our Vice Chair and Sam Beardsley who temporarily took on the role of Treasurer. We thank them both for all the time and effort they both brought to the Board. We welcome Andrew Cambridge, our new Treasurer and we look forward to working closely with him.

We pride ourselves on providing a quality service that is delivered efficiently and effectively. As we operate under the national Home-Start UK umbrella, we have recently undergone a full quality assurance review of our service. This has a involved an assessment of our compliance to Home-Start UK policies and procedures and interviews with families, staff, volunteers and other stakeholders. This has been an additional workload for the staff team, who have done a brilliant job. We look forward to receiving the full report later this year.

Thank you for taking the time to read our report and feel free to get in touch with myself or any other member of staff if you have any questions.



REFERRALS & NEEDS



74%
of families referred had low self esteem and confidence

114
babies and children aged 0-2 years referred for Perinatal Support

148
New Referrals Received

84%
of families referred were struggling with their mental health

75%
of families referred were feeling isolated

71%
of parents wanted to be more involved in their children's development and learning

OUR SUPPORT

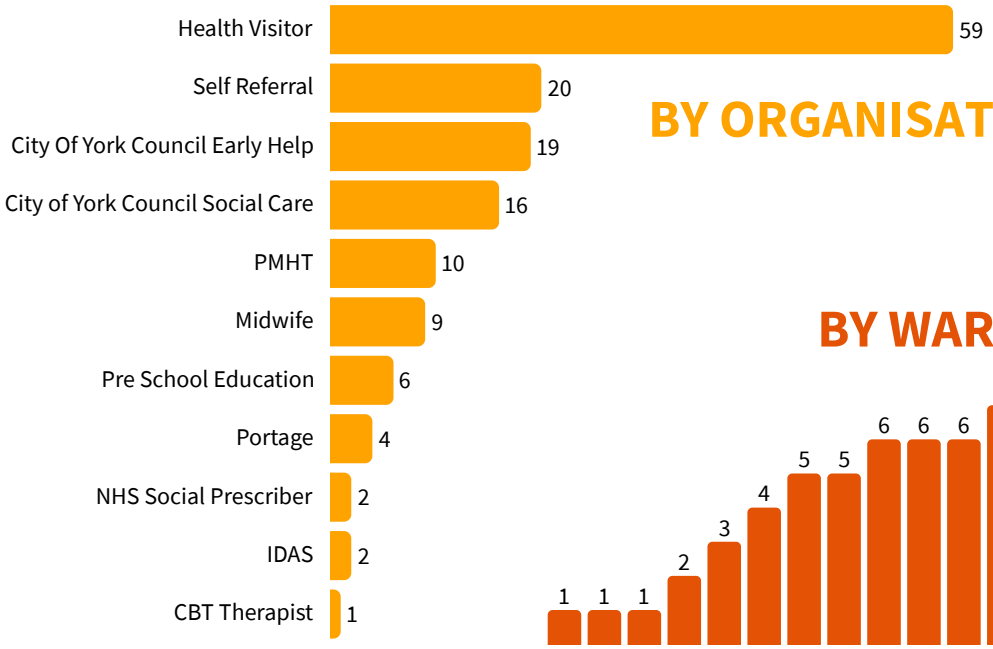
Offering weekly home visits our volunteers support parents with:



- Support from 30 weeks antenatally, to prepare for their new-born.
- Multiples, twins, triplets or several pre-school children.
- Postnatal illness or depression.
- Loneliness and isolation.
- Lone or First-time parents.
- Routines, behaviour management and play.
- Ill health, bereavement, disability or special needs.
- Accompanying to appointments and accessing local services.
- Preparing children with the skills for their school or nursery experience.

Support is based on need and engagement. Families' progress and achievements are celebrated.

NEW REFERRAL SOURCES



BY ORGANISATION

BY WARD

> I honestly don't know of any other service that responds so well and so quickly! The staff are fantastic at their jobs and always get back quickly if I have questions.

When I refer to Home-Start York I am confident that they will nurture the trust we have built with families and carefully match their needs to appropriate volunteers. We get consistently good feedback from families who have accessed their support and have firsthand seen the impact it has had; ranging from supporting families to develop routines, accessing their wider community, helping them organise the home environment more effectively, building parents confidence and positively impacting mental health.

Very approachable, professional and important to support some of our most vulnerable children in the city. Home-Start York have supported many of my Health Visiting clients to a very high quality. They have always gone above and beyond to work with professionals and clients.

Home-Start York work is professional and relevant. They support families with empathy, understanding and compassion while allowing them to grow as individuals as they settle into life in the UK. It is a vital service for us to refer into.

The team at Home-Start York are excellent. They do brilliant work with families and importantly will always engage proactively and constructively in partnership working to improve outcomes for children and families in the city, even if not directly impacting on their work. They bring hugely rich insights from their direct work with families to strategic conversations.

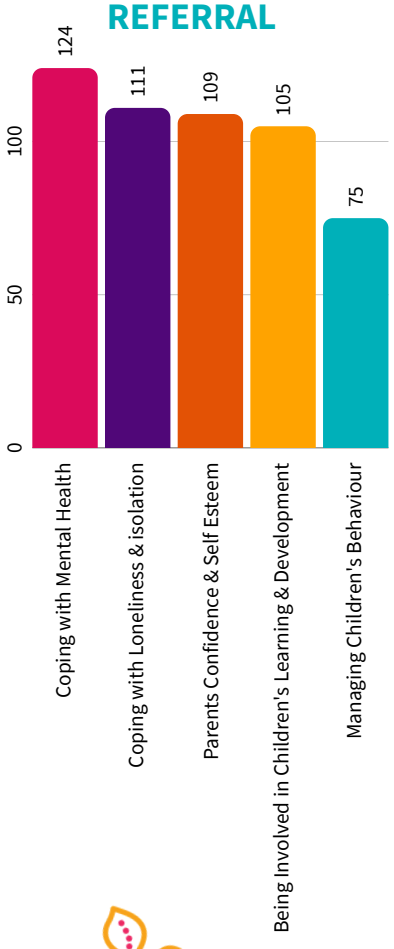
We are lucky to have Home-Start York and value it greatly in supporting the families we work with - thank you.

Families benefit form the support and knowledge of the visitor. The emotional support that having someone outside the family visiting regularly can be invaluable when a family is struggling.

Gathered from: Portage, Healthy Child Team, Community Mental Health Team, Perinatal Mental Health Team, Social Workers, Education Settings, Social Prescribers, IDAS, Midwives, CBT Therapist

Referrer Feedback

MOST IDENTIFIED FAMILY NEEDS AT INITIAL REFERRAL



OUTCOMES, IMPACT AND FAMILY FEEDBACK

84%
of parents felt more confident dealing with household finances

86%
of parents felt more able to manage their children's behaviour

84%
of parents reported an improvement in their mental health

322
Children aged 0-5 Nurtured

75%
of parents supported during pregnancy said it had a positive impact

82%
of parents felt more involved in their child's development and learning

85%
of parents were feeling less isolated

186
Families worked with this year

85%
of parents were more confident with the day to day running of their home

89%
of parents felt more able to deal with stress caused by conflict in the family

4096
Volunteer Hours

84%
of parents reported an increase in their self esteem and confidence

My daughter got her mummy back. Now I really enjoy being a parent, thanks to Home-Start York.

The support my daughter and I were given was invaluable. As a lone parent it allowed me much needed respite and time to catch up on personal care, chores around the house, and accessing appointments, which in turn greatly helped keep my mental health in a positive state. I would highly recommend this service to any new mums who feel overwhelmed or daunted by motherhood, even if it feels hard to ask for support.

You have been nothing short of wonderful and we are so grateful you have given up your time for us. I feel like you have given me a chance to breathe. Thank you!

From the moment I connected with the Home-Start York team, something shifted. They helped me imagine a life beyond my circumstances, one where I could feel supported, seen, and capable again. I've never felt so genuinely understood. They didn't just help me cope but I found hope and friendship with this service. I want to give the team lots of recognition because the work you do is amazing! The way you play a part in helping parents become the best version of themselves - please never stop the work you do and continue to do.

We achieved every goal I set out to-do and more! I couldn't have done any of it without the amazing support of the Home-Start York team so thank you. You have some amazing volunteers, the whole of the the team are amazing.

Home-Start York are wonderful for me. No-one else made me feel this way. I will miss my lady very much she was very kind and lovely. I was lost before she came to my life and now I can see again and have hope for a better time ahead.

Family Feedback

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES





Afternoon Tea & Talk - May

On Thursday 15th May, Home-Start York volunteers, staff and trustees enjoyed a delicious Afternoon Tea and a really interesting interactive talk from Trustee, Dr. Sarah Blower, Associate Professor of Child Development and Family Well Being at the University of York. Sharing findings from her department's research Sarah's talk "Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers", explored the work being done to prevent and reduce children's emotional difficulties and the important role and value volunteers can play in this. Volunteers shared their experiences and ideas with Sarah and enjoyed learning about each other's time with Home-Start York and the support they have given families. Everyone really enjoyed the delicious food and found the talk to be 'interesting' and 'thought provoking'.



York Mumbler Nearly New Sale - September

Maria and Eleanor attended the York Mumbler Nearly New Sale in Nether Poppleton in September. It was lovely to meet new and expectant parents and raise a small amount for our funds selling donated clothes and equipment.



Volunteer Craft Session - September

Also in September, Penny and Lesley organised a craft session for volunteers. It was very much enjoyed by the eight volunteers who attended. We are very grateful to Margaret Beech, an artist who works with paper and Jane, our HSY volunteer and Trustee, who both demonstrated and taught us simple activities using paper that we can use with our Home-Start families. Thank you Margaret and Jane for generously giving your time and sharing your expertise with us and to Jane for the delicious banana cake!





Signposting Event with The Retreat Clinics - October

Adele, Penny and Lesley participated in a Signposting Event for Parents, Families and Carers at York library which was attended by a range of organisations who work with mental health, neurodiversity, legal matters and early parenting. The event fostered discussions about how we can collaborate with these agencies to offer enhanced support for families across York.

Supporting Families with Minister Lions - October to March

Home-Start York was proud to be chosen again by the Minister Lions as one of their supported charities from October 2025 to March 2026. Through this partnership, we identified families in need of essential items such as heated blankets and safety gates. Thanks to the generosity of the Minister Lions, we were able to supply these vital items and offer additional comfort and safety at home during the colder months.

Other Local Networking

Attendance at Maternity Voices Partnership, Children and Young People's Forum, York CVS, York Energy Advice, First Bus/Menfulness, Spear York, Volunteer Management Forum, ICS consultation events, York St John's University, University of York.



Spreading Joy at Christmas - December

We were once again incredibly grateful to Cameron from Overbury, who kindly donated Christmas presents for local families for the fourth year. In December, volunteers collected gifts during a festive gathering at the Home-Start York office, where they also enjoyed a warm mince pie with our team.

Minster Tree Festival - December

Our contribution to the 2025 Minster Tree Festival focussed on our recruitment campaign for new volunteers and trustees. Ornaments symbolised the heartwarming journeys families have shared with us and also paid tribute to our dedicated volunteers who generously give their time to nurture special parent-child relationships. The Christmas lights illuminated not only the tree but the enduring spirit of compassion and community that defines our work.





York Garrison Health Fair - January

We were invited to attend the York Garrison Health Fair at the Imphal Barracks, Fulford. It was great to publicise the support Home-Start York can offer military families and to meet representatives from other local organisations and discuss how we can work together to support families in York.

York Careers Fair – February

We attended the York Careers Fair in February which proved a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness of our work and recruit new volunteers. Several attendees registered their interest in joining us to support local families.



University of York Student Placement



In February, we welcomed Grace from the University of York for a 70 day student placement. Grace contributed meaningfully to our projects, gaining valuable experience while offering much-appreciated support to our team.

“Over the past four months, I have had the privilege of seeing the incredible work that Home-Start York does to support families across York. From completing assessments and family reviews, to working directly with families as a volunteer, every experience has shown me the difference that kindness, encouragement and practical support can make during difficult times.

One of the things that has stood out most to me is the genuine care that runs through everything Home-Start York does. Whether it is staff coordinating support for families, volunteers giving their time each week or the wider network of people who make the service possible, there is a shared commitment to helping families feel listened to, valued and supported. It has been incredibly rewarding to build relationships with families and to see the positive impact that a supportive and trusted relationship can have. These are experiences that I will carry with me throughout my social work career.

I would like to thank everyone at Home-Start York for making me feel so welcome. Most importantly, thank you to Maria, Eleanor, Adele and Susan for your support, guidance and sharing your knowledge and experience with me. As I move on to the next stage of my degree, I feel grateful for the opportunity to have been part of such a special organisation. Home-Start York is making a real difference in the lives of families every day and I feel very lucky to have been able to play a small part in that work. I will certainly miss being part of the team."

BIG HOPES BIG FUTURES

BIG HOPES BIG FUTURE
Our school readiness project



Our School Readiness Programme, Big Hopes Big Futures was originally established by HSUK. Although no longer receiving funding or training through them we have continued to provide tailored support to families, responding directly to early childhood development needs identified during initial visits. Referral reasons are varied and include establishing routines, setting boundaries, supporting speech and language development, toileting, and encouraging engagement with early learning activities. These interventions aim to help children prepare for the transition to educational settings.

Both families and volunteers have responded positively to the programme's short-term, solution-focused model. The structured nature of the intervention has been especially effective in guiding families through the process. A core element of the programme is its strengths-based approach, which is also reflected in our home visiting support. Volunteers play a crucial role in helping families recognise their strengths and successes, thereby promoting confidence and resilience in parenting. This empowering method helps families manage everyday challenges while providing a nurturing environment for their children's development.

63 children supported through the BHBF programme this year.

PERINATAL INFANT MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT (PIMHS)



Perinatal Mental Health
HOME START

Since 2023, Home-Start York has expanded its service to include Perinatal Infant Mental Health Support (PIMHs), providing practical and emotional support from 30+ weeks of pregnancy until babies are around twelve months old. Through weekly volunteer home visits, we help parents prepare positively for birth, strengthen early parent-infant relationships, and build confidence during the critical first 1,001 days of a child's life. Our approach reflects the ambitions of the Best Start in Life and 1,001 Critical Days frameworks by providing early intervention, promoting secure attachment, supporting parental mental wellbeing, reducing isolation, and helping families access the right support at the right time. By intervening early, we help prevent challenges from escalating and give babies the best possible start in life.

Our impact in the last 12 months:

19 referrals received for antenatal support.

114 babies and children aged 0-2 years referred.

7 volunteers trained to deliver perinatal support.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

As always, we wish to thank these wonderful people, the volunteers who work tirelessly with Home-Start York to support families in York, without their kindness and generosity, it would not happen.



March 2026 Prep Course

VOLUNTEERS IN YEAR 2025-26: 58

Adrienne, Alison B, Alison T*, Amanda*, Amina*, Angela, Cate*, Cath, Charlie*, Christine, Denise, Elizabeth, Emma, Fiona H, Fiona L, Glenys*, Grace, Hazel, Heidi, Jane, Janet, Jennie, Jenny*, Jo, Jorge-Ann*, Julia*, Julie, Kathryn, Keka, Laura B, Laura M, Lesley, Lisa, Lucy, Lyn, Lynda, Maggie I, Maggie M*, Melanie, Natalie P, Penny, Rachel, Rose, Rowshanara*, Ruth R, Sandrine*, Sara H, Sara L, Sarah, Sophia, Stephanie, Sue M*, Sue, Tracey, Tricia, Val C, Yvonne*, Zephine*.

* retired this year



November 2025 PIMHs Course





Picnic in the Park



Christmas Coffee and Cake



Go for it! There are families that will be happy to see a friendly face who can help them through a challenging phase.

The team work very well together whilst fulfilling their individual roles extremely effectively. It is like a well-oiled machine. They match families' needs and volunteers' strengths and interests very well. There is excellent leadership and a shared approach to the multiple layers involved in a small organisation with a large number of volunteers to manage and train. All staff offer a warm and welcoming environment.

Volunteering for Home-Start York is a very affirmative experience. It has had a very significant, positive impact on my life, knowing that I have made a difference, however small to the lives of young families in York.

We had a comprehensive initial training including safeguarding which was suitable for volunteers with or without previous safeguarding experience. This has been followed up regularly with annual training and updates as and when required. When there have been issues there has always been a swift and relevant response from the managers. I have always felt listened to and been given good advice.

It is very rewarding volunteering for Home-Start, knowing the families I have supported got through a difficult time and the appreciation they show. Home-Start York is a very rewarding way to volunteer.

It's a really nice charity to be involved with. I've worked with several families and feel respected and cared about by both the familiy and definitely the staff.

Volunteer Feedback

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

We express our sincere gratitude to all our funders, donors and supporters this financial year.

Without you, all the stories of change for individual families in York contained within this report just couldn't happen. Your contribution has helped us improve the lives of hundreds of children and their parents, so thank you!

Arlish & Chambers
Bishopthorpe Methodist Church Quench Cafe
City of York Council
City of York Public Health
EVLO
Jamie, Lauren & Casper's Wedding Fundraiser
Minster Lions of York CIO
NHS Humber & North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Overbury PLC
Richard & Alison Baldwin
The Jack Brunton Charitable Trust
The Norman Collinson Charitable Trust
The Sylvia & Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust
Tina Funnell
Two Ridings
York Children's Trust
York Energy Advice
York Rotary Club



"This service is one of the most brilliant services we commission – the impact it has on families' lives is incredible and it is a privilege to be able to fund this." **Funding Commissioner**

An enormous "Thank you" to all the amazing staff, volunteers, trustees and supporters who all make Home-Start York the wonderful charity it is today.

Structure, Governance & Management

Home-Start York is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Retiring and new trustees sharing Home-Start York's objectives are each year elected to the Trustee Board at an Annual General Meeting. The procedure for the induction and training of trustees follows carefully the policies and guidelines laid down by Home-Start UK, the national body for all Home-Start schemes.

The Trustee Board meets four times a year to agree on policies, budgets, to consider operational reports and to decide on future strategies. The staff are responsible to the Scheme Manager, who reports to the Board via the Chair and Deputy Chair. The volunteers' activities are supervised and monitored by the Coordinators.

In addition to its internal reports and the Annual Report, Home-Start York also issues reports on its performance and funding state to its three primary funders, the City of York Council, Public Health and NHS Humber & North Yorkshire ICB. The Trustees review significant risks to the charity's continued operation regularly and ensure Home-Start UK's policies on risk mitigation are followed. The main risks are funding shortfalls, availability of suitable operating premises, and the personal safety of staff and volunteers.

Financial Review

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees aim to maintain an unrestricted reserve equivalent to at least 12 months' normal operating expenditure so that the core activities could continue through a period of unforeseen financial difficulty. In addition, a designated fund is maintained to cover the costs involved in closing the Scheme if that eventuality were to arise. The designated fund also covers potential liabilities arising from certain staff's membership of the Pensions Trust pension scheme and any significant contingent liabilities. All reserves are maintained in a readily realisable form.
Funds materially in deficit: none.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Home Start York's total incoming resources was £89,683 a decrease of £29,751 on the previous year. The total resources expended were £124,520, an increase of £6,526 on the previous year, mainly due to an increase in staffing costs and increased inflationary pressures on other costs, which has decreased the general reserve balance.

In the year ended 31 March 2025, an amount of £7,181 which was a transfer between bank accounts was incorrectly accounted as income with a resultant overstatement of other projects income, bank balances and unrestricted funds by this amount. The comparative figures have been restated in this year's Statement of Financial Activities to correct this error.

We intend to maintain our service above national and local expectations in future years and seek new funding for services but doing so may change our current balances. We have held our designated fund at last year's level after re-assessment of future costs, the potential liabilities that could arise on closure of the charity and continued difficulties in sourcing new funding as a result of the issues faced by charities and businesses alike in the wake of continued economic turmoil and the reduction in the levels of funding available.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds received or expended during the year are showing a small surplus of £739.

Andrew Cambridge
Treasurer

Trustee Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

Company law requires the directors (trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the income and expenditure of the company for the year. In preparing those financial statements the directors (trustees) are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, or explain departures therefrom;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue on that basis.

The directors (trustees) are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities, as well as exercising proper financial controls. Members of the Board of Trustees, who are Directors for the purpose of company law, and Trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out inside the rear cover of this report.

DISCLOSURE

In accordance with company law, as the company's Directors, each of the Board of Trustees certifies that so far as they are aware:

• There is no relevant information of which the charity's Independent Examiner is unaware;

• As Directors of the company they have taken the necessary steps to be aware of the information which would be relevant for independent examination purposes and have communicated such to the Independent Examiner.

EXEMPTIONS

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemption available to small companies, including the audit exemption (as detailed in Note 1.3 to the financial statements).

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees





Sandra Furby
Chair
3rd August 2026

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	2026 Total Funds £	2025 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:						
Donations and Grants	3	86,985		721	87,706	117,246
Investment Income	3	1,977			1,977	2,188
Total Income		88,962		721	89,683	119,434
RESOURCES EXPENDED:						
Charitable Activities	4	123,477		1,043	124,520	117,994
Total Resources Expended		123,477		1,043	124,520	117,994
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(34,515)		(322)	(34,837)	1,440
Funds brought forward		105,976	37,000	1,092	144,068	142,628
Transfers between Funds	7	31		(31)		
Total funds carried forward		71,492	37,000	739	109,231	144,068

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2026

	Note	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Current Assets					
Cash in hand		129		184	
Cash at Bank		109,512		144,520	
			109,641		144,704
Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	6	(410)		(636)	
Net Current Assets			109,231		144,068
Total Net Assets			109,231		144,068
Represented by:					
Funds					
Unrestricted Fund	7		71,492		105,976
Designated Fund	7		37,000		37,000
Restricted Funds	7		739		1,092
	8		109,231		144,068

Dated: 3rd August 2026 Sandra Furby, Chair For and on behalf of Home-Start York

All of the charity's operations are classed as continuing. There are no recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. The notes to the accounts on pages 17-20 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2026

1.BASIS OF PREPARATION

1.1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) and with Accounting Standards.

1.2 Changes to previous year's accounts

In the year ended 31 March 2025, an amount of £7,181 which was a transfer between bank accounts was incorrectly accounted as income with a resultant overstatement of other projects income, bank balances and unrestricted funds by this amount. The 2025 comparative figures have been restated to correct this.

1.3 Exemptions

The trustees are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Incoming Resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: The charity becomes entitled to the resources. Receipt of the resources is probable, and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. When incoming resources have related expenditure the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA. Grants and Donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources, Investment income is included in the SoFA when receivable.

2.2 Resources Expended

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources, using the accrual basis.

3. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds 2026 £	Restricted Funds 2026 £	2026 Total Funds £	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	2025 Total Funds £
Donations and Grants:						
City of York Council grant	23,784		23,784	23,063		23,063
CYC Public Health Grant	20,000		20,000	21,000		21,000
Vale of York C.C.G. (N.H.S.) grant	15,649		15,649	15,649		15,649
Donations from Trusts	17,425		17,425	50,967		50,967
Other Projects	2,288	721	3,009	661	1,010	1,671
Other Donations	7,839		7,839	4,396	500	4,896
	86,985	721	87,706	115,736	1,510	117,246
Trading Activities:						
Investment Income:						
Bank and Deposit Account Interest	1,977		1,977	2,188		2,188
Total incoming resources	88,962	721	89,683	117,924	1,510	119,434

4. RESOURCES EXPENDED

		2026 Charitable Activities			2025 Charitable Activities		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Payroll costs	5	98,453		98,453	94,782		94,782
Staff other costs		772		772	695		695
Volunteer costs		3,447	500	3,947	2,492		2,492
Family Activities		204	543	747	419	689	1,108
Office & premises running cost		20,601		20,601	18,917		18,917
Total resources expended		123,477	1,043	124,520	117,305	689	117,994

4.1 Trustees expenses

No Trustee received remuneration for services rendered during the year.

4.2 Independent Examiners' fees	2026	2025
For reporting on the financial statements	350	350

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2026

5. PAID EMPLOYEES

	2026	2025
5.1 Staff Costs		
Gross salaries and benefits in kind	90,907	85,941
Employer National Insurance	134	1,894
Employer pension contribution	7,412	6,947
Total staff costs	98,453	94,782
5.2 Full-time equivalent employees		
Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year	2.75	2.75
Working in Charitable activities	2.75	2.75
Working in Fundraising activities		

5.3 Pension arrangements

Staff may elect to join a pension scheme operated with The Pensions Trust. The scheme is a contracted-in occupational money purchase plan, currently growth plan 4. There is a contingent liability in relation to the guaranteed element of pension entitlement up to October 2001.

The cost of the scheme to the charity in the year	2,028	2,028

6. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS

Independent Examination	350	350
Volunteers' expenses	60	286
	410	636

7. DETAILS OF FUNDS

7.1 Funds held

Endowment Funds:

There were no such funds held during the year.

Restricted Funds: Funds held during the year were;

Big Hopes Big Futures: Grants were made to this project by HSUK. Balance of £29 transferred to core

Perinatal Infant Mental Health: Funds were received from the Ed de Nunzio Trust and Whitwam Trust for this project and used towards training with full commencement in April 2023. Following commencement in April 2023, costs were allocated against staff, volunteers and operating expenses. Balance of £2 transferred to core.

Minster Lions: Covered the cost of equipment requirements for supported families. Monies were requested and provided on a case by case basis.

Training: Funding of £500 for training was received through the Tesco Blue Token scheme in 2025 and allocated to volunteer training in 2026.

A designated fund is maintained to cover the costs involved in closing the Scheme if that eventuality was to arise. The designated fund also covers potential liabilities arising from certain staff's membership of the Pensions Trust pension scheme and any other significant contingent liabilities.

7.2 Movement of funds	Balance B'fwd	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Total Funds
Unrestricted Fund					
General Funds	105,976	88,962	123,477	31	71,492
Restricted					
Minster Lions	561	721	543		739
BHBF	29			(29)	
Perinatal Infant Mental Health	2			(2)	
Training	500		500		
	1,092	721	1,043		739
Designated Fund	37,000				37,000
Closing Balance	144,068	89,683	124,520		109,231

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2026

8. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated	Total
Balances as at 31st March 2026				
Current Assets	71,902	739	37,000	109,641
Current Liabilities	(410)			(410)
	71,492	739	37,000	109,231
Balances as at 31st March 2025				
Current Assets	106,612	1,092	37,000	144,704
CurrentLiabilities	(636)			(636)
	105,976	1,092	37,000	144,068

9. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There is a contingent liability of £2,028 (2025 - £2,028) relating to the pension scheme, which would fall due to the scheme provider if Home-Start York had no members in the scheme. The amount of the liability is as advised by the Pensions Trust following their latest Scheme Valuation.



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Home-Start York

HOME-START YORK, Charity Number: 1161151

I report on the accounts of Home-Start York for the year ended 31st March 2026, which are set out on pages 17-20.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with these records
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

26th August 2026

Jeff Todd FCA
Outsource Independent Examination Service
24 First Avenue
York
YO31 7YQ





PRESIDENT

Richard Baldwin

PATRONS

Alison Baldwin
Barbara Cooke
Sir Ron Cooke
Sallie Gray
David Miller

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

Sandra Furby - Chair
Andrew Cambridge - Treasurer
Penny Heptonstall - Volunteer Representative & Health & Safety
Lesley Murphy - Volunteer Representative & Policies
Jane Keel - Safeguarding
Jess Harrison - GDPR

STAFF TEAM

Maria Farrar - Scheme Manager
Susan Deery - Family Support Coordinator
Adele Hunter - Family Support Coordinator
Eleanor Carswell - Administrator

PRINCIPAL ADVISOR

Home-Start UK







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Home-Start York is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, incorporated as a company limited by guarantee.
Registered Company No: 09471420 Registered Charity No: 1161151

#comejoinourboard
#comejoinourvolunteers

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