ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE YORK

Registered Charity Number: 1171386
Company Number: CE008958

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
AND
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

HPH
Chartered Accountants
54 Bootham
YORK
YO30 7XZ

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE YORK

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
AND
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

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ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE YORK
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Annual Report together with the Receipts and Payments Account, and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026. The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis and comply with the charity's governing document and the Charities Act 2011.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Charity name:	Alliance Française de York
Registered charity number:	1171386
Company number:	CE008958
Charity's principal address:	HPH Chartered Accountants 54 Bootham YORK YO30 7XZ
Charity's contact and address:	Mark Egan Chair 15 Church Lane Strensall, YORK YO32 5XU

Names of the Charity Trustees who managed the Charity during the year:

Mark Egan	Chair	Appointed 17 June 2022
Stephen Curran	Hon. Treasurer	Appointed 18 June 2021 Resigned 24 June 2025
Andrew Harley	Hon. Treasurer	Appointed 11 August 2023 Deceased 8 March 2026
Anne Harley	Secretary	Appointed 18 June 2021
Mat Watson	Trustee	Appointed 11 August 2023
Barbara George	Trustee	Appointed 24 June 2025

The names and addresses of the Charity's advisers:

Independent Examiner:	Sarah Wearing FCA, DChA HPH, Chartered Accountants, 54 Bootham, YORK, YO30 7XZ
Bankers:	CAF Bank. Kings Hill, West Malling, KENT, ME19 4JQ
Solicitors:	Grays Solicitors Duncombe Place YORK YO1 7DY

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE YORK
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Association model) (CIO) and was registered with the Charity Commission on 31 January 2017. Prior to this it had been an unincorporated charitable association for over 20 years.

Our constitution allows for a maximum of 8 Trustees and we currently have 4 in post. Trustees are selected at the AGM. Members are invited to apply before the AGM. Existing Trustees may also co-opt members to become Trustees if vacancies remain after the AGM.

The administration of the Charity is normally carried out by a Director and a part-time Administrator. Agathe Cintrat was appointed interim Director in January 2024 and confirmed as permanent Director in April 2024. At the year end, there were four part-time teachers, who did not undertake administrative duties in addition to the Director who undertakes the bulk of in-person teaching.

Wherever possible and in accordance with Government guidelines, Trustees have continued to attend training seminars for small charities. We have been fortunate to have had Trustees with legal, human resources and safeguarding expertise, but we continue to take outside legal, accounting and human resource advice as needed.

We continue to belong to a wider UK network of Alliance Française organisations, working closely with the Institut Français. Our Chair and Director have attended meetings which brought together UK Alliance Française branches to discuss current issues and challenges.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Alliance Française de York is an educational Charity whose aims are: -

To advance the education of the public of York and the surrounding region in French language and culture, in particular but not exclusively by:

- Organising courses in French language, civilisation and literature;
- Promoting social and cultural activities relating to France and for French speakers in York and the surrounding area (such as lectures, musical concerts, drama, exhibitions, film, shows);
- Collaborating with the cultural service of the French Embassy in London;
- Supporting French language teaching and the diffusion of French culture in schools, colleges, and universities.

The Trustees believe they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission in respect of public benefit.

Volunteers play a significant role in delivering the objectives and activities of the Charity. In addition, members volunteer to organise and assist at many of the activities listed further below.

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE YORK
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The main mission of the Alliance Française de York is to provide French language and culture courses over 30 weeks, as well as individual and small group courses throughout the year. We help prepare learners to take the DELF/DALF examinations, which cover all abilities from beginners to fluent French speakers.

Our members may also take part in facilitated conversational meetings which this year are face-to-face. In addition, we organise a number of cultural activities throughout the year, including, for example, celebrating France's national day on 14 July. We use a monthly email newsletter and website, as well as social media, to communicate with members and prospective students. With improved resources in this area, we have seen engagement continue to increase, both online and at our regular face-to-face social events.

Although some members expressed a preference for in-person events after lockdown, online meetings continue, including some classes, and meetings of Trustees. Online meetings have also helped us connect with members who live at a distance from York and retain staff who prefer to work online. We continue to adjust our processes as appropriate and thinking creatively about how we can deliver our services in new ways.

A longstanding challenge has been the absence of an office and teaching room. We are grateful to the Friargate Centre for hosting face-to-face classes again this year.

We had a larger deficit in 2025-2026 than in the previous year, which reflected the difficulties we have experienced in recruiting additional students whilst also dealing with increasing costs. Widening our in-person course offering is complicated by the limited number of teachers in the York area who have French as their mother tongue. Trustees are carefully considering the implications of the organisation's continuing deficits for the longer-term sustainability of the charity.

POLICY ON RESERVES

The Charity's policy is to ensure that there are sufficient funds to cover liabilities in the event of closure. For the year ended 31 March 2026 £31,477 is held in reserves (in 2025 - £37,480).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The main source of income for the Charity is course fees paid by individuals for the French language courses. The Charity also raises funds from membership subscriptions (currently £35 per year) and payment by individuals for various activities.

Total receipts in the year amounted to £28,328 (2025 - £32,176) and total payments amounted to £34,331 (2025 – £34,041) giving rise to a net excess of payments over receipts of £6,003 (2025 - £1,865). We successfully controlled costs during the year, including by changing our storage arrangements to enable us to end our storage contract, but incurred a significant deficit because of continuing difficulties in attracting students.

All money raised for the Charity is used to provide the activities and for administrative costs. We do not invest money but keep our reserves in a bank savings account, moving money between the current account and the savings account to maximise return on our funds, while ensuring the smooth running of the Charity.

Approved on behalf of the board by

Mark Egan
Trustee and Chair

22 July 2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE YORK

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Alliance Francaise De York ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 March 2026.

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's trustees as a body for my independent examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees 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 2011 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 Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Sarah Wearing FCA, DChA
HPH, Chartered Accountants
54 Bootham
YORK
YO30 7XZ

22 July 2026

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE YORK

Registered Charity Number: 1171386
Company Number: CE008958

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31/03/2026 £	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31/03/2025 £
Receipts		
Course fees	25,048	29,796
Membership fees	1,335	900
Events and social activities	364	294
Other receipts	1,072	353
Bank interest received	509	833
Total receipts	**28,328**	**32,176**
Payments		
Tutors' salaries and pensions	13,351	13,248
Course materials	78	124
Activities and events	175	200
Rent and service charges	5,863	6,488
Administration salary and pensions	11,376	11,241
Insurance	639	634
IT equipment and website costs	245	232
Stationery, postage and photocopying	-	12
Office expenses	488	338
Publicity and advertising	592	-
Legal and professional fees:		
Accountancy and payroll fees	1,083	1,104
Independent examination fees	381	360
Bank charges	60	60
	34,331	34,041
Total payments	**34,331**	**34,041**
Net of receipts over payments/(payments over receipts)	**(6,003)**	**(1,865)**
Cash funds brought forward	37,480	39,345
Cash funds carried forward	**£ 31,477**	**£ 37,480**

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE YORK

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2026 £	Unrestricted Funds 31 March 2025 £
Cash funds			
Bank current account		3,555	10,052
Bank savings account		27,922	27,428
		£ 31,477	£ 37,480
Assets retained for the Charity's own use			
Computer equipment	3	338	423
		£ 338	£ 423
Liabilities			
Creditors and accruals for expenses		2,593	2,145
		£ 2,593	£ 2,145

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the board on 22 July 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Mark Egan

Trustee and Chair

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE YORK

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1. ACCOUNTING POLICY

a) Basis of Preparation

The accounts are prepared on the receipts and payments basis.

b) Depreciation

Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Computer equipment	20% reducing balance

2. FUNDS

The Charity only has unrestricted funds.

3. FIXED ASSETS

	Computer Equipment £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2025	1,034
Additions	-
At 31 March 2026	1,034
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2025	611
Charge for the year	85
At 31 March 2026	696
Carrying amounts	
At 31 March 2026	338
At 31 March 2025	423