Charity registration number 1184137 (England and Wales)

# ABC BOOK CLUB

# ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

# ABC BOOK CLUB

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Trustees** | T Dowd | |
| | D Spragg | |
| | J De-Machen | |
| | Ms E Schick | (Appointed 10 November 2025) |
| | Mr J Sims | (Appointed 10 November 2025) |
| | Ms A Willard | (Appointed 19 August 2025) |
| | Mr R Mullings | (Appointed 30 July 2025) |
| | Ms L Hall | (Appointed 30 July 2025) |
| | Mr A Jones | (Appointed 7 April 2026) |
| | Ms D Dumville | |
| **Charity registration** | England and Wales | 1184137 |
| **Independent examiner** | Perrys Audit Limited<br>4th Floor<br>399-401 Strand<br>London<br>United Kingdom<br>WC2R 0LT | |

# ABC BOOK CLUB

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# ABC BOOK CLUB

## TRUSTEES REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

**Objectives and activities**

Objects

For the benefit of the public to advance the education of children, in particular but not exclusively, by distributing children's books to local schools in need of resources, the installation of reading areas and libraries, and the purchase and assembly of furniture and furnishings in schools.

Activities in the Year

April 25 – March 26 saw 44,950 books donated to 90 different local schools and organisations by ABC. The donations were made predominantly to primary schools in a variety of areas, but also to nurseries, childminders, hospitals and community spaces. The charity built 14 libraries in primary schools in England delivering more libraries than ever before.

Turnham Academy- Brockley SE4

This circus themed library was built using money fundraised by the school's Parent and Teacher association. Over 1,500 books were used in its creation all provided by ABC. The charity designed, built and launched the library in April 2024.

David Livingstone Primary Academy - Croydon

The school struggled to encourage children to read and this community space has been opened to support children reading with their carers as well as during school time.

Cuddington Croft Primary School - Cheam

This school had a huge budget fundraised by the PTA over many years. They decided to invest in a legacy project that would last the school pupils many years and inspire reading for pleasure.

Kidbrooke Park Primary Academy – Kidbrooke

This school had a library but it was uninviting and uninspiring. With monies fundraised by the school, ABC built a space themed library based on a theme chosen by the pupils. The library has been met with much excitement and changed the way pupils view library time.

Harris Academy South Kenton.

On the recommendation of Lord Harris, ABC created a London themed library at this school in Wembley. With bespoke artwork and a snug reading nook the room was completely transformed and the children inspired.

Cherry Orchard Primary School – Charlton SE7

This school had an awkwardly large foyer and was the only space in the school suitable for a library. With some clever set creation we managed to make a space that felt inclusive and like a retreat from the noise.

St Margarets' Primary School – Plumstead
This showstopper library was built with two purposes. Not only as a library for the children, but as a library for the community to share books with their children. With a church next door to the school the ambition is to open the space overy weekends to encourage families to read together.

St Thomas of Canterbury – Medway
This tiny school had a big ambition and a determined reading lead spearheaded the project in this area of high deprivation. A Safari themed library was built and has changed the way the school and its pupils use the library.

Heathfield Academy – Croydon
This Academy school has seen the work in other schools in the Trust and engaged ABC to transform a drab room into a reading room with a rose garden theme to honour the area in which the school is cited.

Wincheap Primary School – Canterbury
Another school in an area of high deprivation, but the premises team and the school team were determined to transform a disused classroom into a Rainforest Reading Room. The whole school witnessed the unveiling of the space to huge excitement.

Vigo Village Primary School – Vigo, Kent.
A village school with another school team determined to inject a love of reading into the school curriculum. The children chose a space theme and the ABC team got to work transforming the space complete with themed archway entry and planets and stars themed wall art.

Plumcroft Primary – Plumstead
In an unusual project, and together with funding from Greenwich Council, the school sought to transform an outside toilet block into a fantastic Rainforest themed reading for pleasure library for use during before and after school club.

Rachel MacMillan – Deptford
This nursery school had an outgoing Head Teacher that was retiring following 20 years service. A legacy project for the school saw ABC create a wonderfully comfortable reading room suitable for under 5s.

Howard Primary School – Croydon
There's a lot of proud naval history associated with this school and that was reflected in the explorer and nautical theme of this library. A tight budget raised by the PTA meant we had to make the best we could with very little but still manged to create a showstopper.

Public benefit
The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake.

**Financial review**

During the year the charity has received £189,485 (2025: £120,747) in donation income and has incurred operational costs of £133,515 (2025: £112,752) resulting in a net surplus of £55,970 (2025: £14,957).

Total funds as at 31 March 2026 are £100,478 (2025: £44,508). In the current economic climate, consideration has been taken to allow for the charity to continue its vital work whilst also contemplating its costs and the necessity of all spend. ABC plan to utilise the majority of funds on account for operational costs and going forward using monies raised by PTAs and schools to build libraries where possible to avoid overspending.

Financial activity has been significant this year as the charity has secured a £49,000 (2025: £92,463) donation from the Acorn Group and invoices and payments are now managed directly by the charity. The charity is in a stable financial position following the current economic uncertainty but is prepared and able to adjust its offering and spend depending on economic conditions. Most of the activities have been carried out based on non-monetary donations of books which we expect to do more of in 2026/27

The trustees also gratefully acknowledge all the voluntary and financial support received throughout the year which has enabled it to continue ensuring that the objects of the charity are reached.

Reserves policy

The policy of the Charity is to keep reserves to a minimum and to ensure that all donations are used for the furtherment of the objectives of the charity.

**Structure, governance and management**

The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

| | |
|---|---|
| T Dowd | |
| D Spragg | |
| J De-Machen | |
| Ms E Schick | (Appointed 10 November 2025) |
| Mr J Sims | (Appointed 10 November 2025) |
| Ms A Willard | (Appointed 19 August 2025) |
| Mr R Mullings | (Appointed 30 July 2025) |
| Ms L Hall | (Appointed 30 July 2025) |
| A Falase-Koya | (Position vacated 30 April 2026) |
| Mr A Jones | (Appointed 7 April 2026) |
| Ms D Dumville | |

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustee Selection

The trustees are appointed on a basis that they can each bring a unique view and experience to the running of the charity.

Management

Acorn Book Club (ABC) has no paid full-time employees and is run by the trustees. The charity is reliant upon the time, skill and resources donated by its trustees and other supporters, for which it is extremely grateful. The trustees receive no remuneration or other benefits.

The trustees report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



D Spragg
**Trustee**

5 October 2026

# ABC BOOK CLUB

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

## TO THE TRUSTEES OF ABC BOOK CLUB

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of ABC Book Club (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2026.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Declan McCusker FCA FCCA
Perrys Audit Limited
4th Floor
399-401 Strand
London
WC2R 0LT
United Kingdom

5 October 2026

# ABC BOOK CLUB

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
**(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds 2026 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Income from:** | | | |
| Donations and legacies | **2** | 89,102 | 120,747 |
| Charitable activities | **3** | 100,383 | 6,962 |
| **Total income** | | 189,485 | 127,709 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | |
| Charitable activities | **4** | 133,515 | 112,752 |
| **Total expenditure** | | 133,515 | 112,752 |
| **Net income and movement in funds** | | 55,970 | 14,957 |
| **Reconciliation of funds:** | | | |
| Fund balances at 1 April 2025 | | 44,508 | 29,551 |
| **Fund balances at 31 March 2026** | | 100,478 | 44,508 |

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

# ABC BOOK CLUB

## BALANCE SHEET

## AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

| | Notes | 2026 £ | £ | 2025 £ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Current assets** | | | | | |
| Debtors | **9** | 8,536 | | 4,479 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 98,258 | | 45,100 | |
| | | 106,794 | | 49,579 | |
| **Creditors: amounts falling due within one year** | **10** | (6,316) | | (5,071) | |
| **Net current assets** | | | 100,478 | | 44,508 |
| **The funds of the Charity** | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | **12** | | 100,478 | | 44,508 |
| | | | 100,478 | | 44,508 |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 5 October 2026

D Spragg
**Trustee**

## 1 Accounting policies

**Charity information**

ABC Book Club is a charitable incorporated organisation. The registered office is 9 St Marks Road, Bromley BR2 9HG,

### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

### 1.2 Going concern

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

### 1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Charity.

### 1.4 Income

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

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

**1 Accounting policies** **(Continued)**

**1.5 Expenditure**

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

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

**1.6 Cash and cash equivalents**

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

**1.7 Financial instruments**

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

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

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

***Basic financial assets***

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

***Basic financial liabilities***

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

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

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

**1 Accounting policies** **(Continued)**

***Derecognition of financial liabilities***
Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

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

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

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

**2 Income from donations and legacies**

| | Unrestricted funds 2026 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Donations and gifts | 78,324 | 117,315 |
| Grants | 8,500 | 748 |
| Payroll giving | 2,278 | 2,684 |
| | 89,102 | 120,747 |

**3 Income from charitable activities**

| | Unrestricted funds 2026 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|
| **Other trading activities** | | |
| Sale of books | 4,428 | 1,874 |
| Project income | 95,955 | 5,088 |
| | 100,383 | 6,962 |

## 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds 2026 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|
| **Direct costs** | | |
| Staff costs | 55,289 | 58,897 |
| Bank Fees | 166 | 134 |
| Fundraising costs | 11,014 | - |
| Utilities | 236 | 1,127 |
| Rent and rates | 6,000 | 3,315 |
| Marketing and signage/display costs | 3,258 | 3,990 |
| Travel and Motor | - | 5 |
| Telephone and Internet | 2,987 | 1,886 |
| Storage boxes and maintenance | 737 | 4,614 |
| Waste Collection | 360 | 360 |
| Project costs | 42,324 | 23,972 |
| Sundry costs | 223 | 137 |
| Entertaining | 209 | 110 |
| Postage, Freight & courier | 2,453 | 508 |
| | 125,256 | 99,055 |
| **Share of support and governance costs (see note 5)** | | |
| Governance | 8,259 | 13,697 |
| | 133,515 | 112,752 |
| **Analysis by fund** | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 133,515 | 112,752 |

## 5 Support costs allocated to activities

| | 2026 £ | 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Governance costs | 8,259 | 13,697 |
| **Analysed between:** | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 8,259 | 13,697 |

## 6 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Charity during the year.

## 7 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

| | 2026 Number | 2025 Number |
|---|---|---|
| | 3 | 3 |

| Employment costs | 2026 £ | 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Wages and salaries | 53,987 | 56,406 |
| Social security costs | - | 1,298 |
| Other pension costs | 1,302 | 1,193 |
| | 55,289 | 58,897 |

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

## 8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

## 9 Debtors

| Amounts falling due within one year: | 2026 £ | 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade debtors | 2,840 | 3,387 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 5,696 | 1,092 |
| | 8,536 | 4,479 |

## 10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 2026 £ | 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Other taxation and social security | 774 | 1,546 |
| Trade creditors | 815 | 1,875 |
| Other creditors | 1,237 | 60 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 3,490 | 1,590 |
| | 6,316 | 5,071 |

## 11 Retirement benefit schemes

| | 2026 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| **Defined contribution schemes** | **£** | **£** |
| Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes | 1,302 | 1,193 |

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

## 12 Unrestricted funds

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

| | At 1 April 2025 | Incoming resources | Resources expended | At 31 March 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| General funds | 44,508 | 189,485 | (133,515) | 100,478 |

| Previous year: | At 1 April 2024 | Incoming resources | Resources expended | At 31 March 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| General funds | 29,551 | 127,709 | (112,752) | 44,508 |

## 13 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2025 - none).