Registered charity number 1196698

Growing Different

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 for Growing Different

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 31 March 2026

Main address
Growing Different
Allia Future Business Centre
King's Hedges Road
Cambridge
Cambridgeshire
CB4 2HY
United Kingdom
Tel: 0300 3020044
info@growingdifferent.org.uk

Trustee members
Justine Harris - Treasurer
Marivjena Menka - Trustee
Catherine Higney - Chair

Bankers
NatWest Bank
Head office
36 St Andrew Square
Edinburgh
EH2 2YB

Independent examination of accounts
Examined by: Rickard Lucey

Governance and management
The charity is a Foundation Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, number 1196698. It is operated under the rules of its constitution, registered 22 November 2021. Trustees oversee governance, and projects are delivered by trustees, contractors, and volunteers. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the constitution.

Trustees annual report for the year ended 31 March 2026

Aims and objectives
We support children with complex neurodevelopmental differences and their families. We use research and lived experience to identify gaps, improve understanding and share knowledge to improve children's quality of life. We co-create practical, accessible resources from Easy Read to animation, children's books and evidence-based information.

We focus on areas that are often overlooked and signpost to trusted organisations where good support already exists. The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning and delivering the charity's activities.

Achievements for the year

394 families contributed to our national Parent Survey, providing an evidence base that continues to shape our priorities and resources.

Accessibility transformed through a full website redesign informed by an independent accessibility audit, specialist input, family feedback and search behaviour.

Development of new **Easy Read resources** developed, alongside creation of **local AAC symbols** for children and families in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Creative resources expanded through a co-created animated film about hyperlexia and continued development of our children's picture books.

Research shared beyond the charity, including communities, and presentations at public health networks.

PIF TICK retained for the third consecutive year, providing independent recognition of our approach to producing trusted health information.

Community involvement strengthened through family events, SEND networks and the development of a community feedback panel to help shape future work.

Reserves
At 31 March 2026 the charity held £694 in unrestricted funds. Trustees aim to build appropriate reserves to support continuity and meet unexpected costs.

Approved by the trustees on 30th August 2026
Signed on behalf of the trustees: Catherine Higney

Growing Different - Registered Charity Number 1196698

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2026	Total funds 2025
Receipts and Payments:				
Income Receipts				
Grants	0	40350	40350	0
Donations	280	0	280	212
TOTAL INCOME	280	40350	40630	212
Loans	12200	0	12200	0
Total cash receipts	12480	40350	52830	
EXPENDITURE Charitable activities				
Survey and research	0	1638	1638	119
Picture Book Production	0	6124	6124	3026
Information Production	821	3492	4313	1737
Video Production	0	7685	7685	176
Community outreach	0	1893	1893	0
Governance & Membership	0	462	462	419
Office supplies	0	158	158	14
Web development and accessibility	-207	6318	6111	547
Office, computer, phone	71	5394	5465	0
TOTAL CHARITABLE PAYMENTS	685	33164	33849	6038
Loan repayment	11400	0	11400	0
Total payments	12085	33164	45249	
Net of receipts/(payments)	395	7186	7581	-5826
Cash funds at 1 April 2025	299	0	299	299
Cash funds at 31 March 2026	694	7186	7880	
Statement of Liabilities				
Total Loan (Note 5)	2757	0	2757	1137

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the organisation by:

Trustee (Treasurer) Justine Harris Dated: 30 August 2026
Trustee Catherine Higney Dated: 30 August 2026

Notes to the account for the year ended 31 March 2026

1. Income and expenditure accounts

Receipts are recognised when received and payments are recognised when paid. The accounts cover the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.
Note: In 2026, expenses were grouped by project activity rather than itemised lines for clarity. Records remain consistent.

2. Grants and Donations

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
Grants	0	40350	40350	0
Donations	280	0	280	212
Total	280	40350	40630	212

3. Designated funds

There were no designated funds during the year ended 31 March 2026.

4. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds may be used at the trustees' discretion to support the charity's aims. Restricted funds must be spent on specified activities specified by the donor or funder. In 2025–26, we received £280 in unrestricted donations via JustGiving. £20,000 of restricted National Lottery funding and £20,350 of restricted CPCA funds delivered through Allia Ltd.

5. Trustee transactions and payments

At 31 March 2026, £2,757 remained outstanding on interest-free loans advanced by a trustee. During the year, a trustee also paid £820 of charity expenditure directly on behalf of the CIO, which remained outstanding at the year end. The loans are repayable on demand once the CIO has sufficient funds to permit repayment. During the year, a trustee received £5,690 for contracted project "Flourishing Minds". The payments were made under the charity's power to pay trustees for the provision of services in accordance with sections 185–188 of the Charities Act 2011. The remaining un-conflicted trustees approved both arrangements, and all conflicts of interest were strictly managed in accordance with the charity's governance procedures. The trustee withdrew from all discussions and decisions regarding these financial matters.

6. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity Commission's guidance for receipts and payments accounts (CC16).

7. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Growing Different		
On accounts for the year ended	31st March 2026	**Charity no (if any)**	1196698
Set out on pages	4 to 5		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2026.

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* *Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:	Rickard Lucey	**Date:**	20/09/2026
Name:	Rickard Lucey		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):			
Address:	c/o Growing Different, Allia Future Business Centre Kings Hedges Rd Cambridge CB4 2HY		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	