Jessie's fund

MUSIC HELPING CHILDREN



Annual Report and Accounts 2025 – 2026

Our Story and Mission



How we began

Jessica George was nine years old when she was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumour. Jessie's Fund was established to meet the cost of extra treatment, but this bright and musical child died less than six months after her diagnosis, before she had been able to begin the treatment.

Jessie's Fund was registered as a charity in 1995, with the aim of enabling children with life-limiting illnesses or serious disabilities to be heard and supported through the language of music.

Vision:

For every child in the UK who is seriously ill or disabled to experience music as a form of expression, communication, learning and therapy.

Mission:

To help children who are seriously ill or disabled to express themselves and to communicate through music by connecting them and those who care for them with specialist musicians.

The trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on public benefit when setting the charity's aims.

Jessie's Fund follows the Charity Governance Code, ensuring a high quality of governance, and is registered with the Fundraising Regulator.

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In 2025 – 2026…

874

children and young people participated in Jessie's Fund projects in specialist school and early years settings across the UK



46

seriously ill and disabled children who had no other way of accessing vital music therapy received funding for individual sessions

5

children's hospices and hospitals received additional funding for music therapy



120

professionals and family members attended our conference and training courses



Because our supporters gave…

£26,334
during the Big Give Christmas Challenge



£16,466
in regular donations, such as payroll giving and standing orders



£29,151
as part of community events, concerts, gigs and sponsored challenges including…



£1,484
raised by Enid and her local community as part of their Jam and Music events

£42,250
through legacy donations in wills, leaving a lasting impact

Chair's Report

First as a trustee and now as Chair of Jessie's Fund, I have seen that the passion and drive to help as many children as we can communicate through the language of music has always been at the heart of all those connected to the Fund.

This passion and drive shines through our new vibrant website. There you'll see inspiring examples of the incredible work that our musicians have been doing and the impact it has had on the children and their parents. You will also be able to see our plans for the next few years.

As a parent and someone with lived experience of disability in my family, I know how important it is to find ways to open up channels of communication. A child needs to be able to communicate and, as parents, we want and need to respond to our childrens' bids to connect with us. This all relies on communication, which is fundamentally routed in music, in our heart beats and in our senses of rhythm and movement. As we grow and develop, this communication helps us to form language and more nuanced communication skills; a core need for a healthy sense of confidence and belonging.

Whether you are new to the Fund or have been with us for years, I want to acknowledge all of you who have supported the children at the centre of our work in so many ways. Our super team in York consistently go over and above the expectations of their jobs. Our evolving, multi-skilled team of trustees, advisors and founder bring the necessary expertise, ensuring that we maintain the quality of both how we run our Fund and deliver the music. Our Patrons understand our work and always help when they can. Our musicians and music therapists bring not just their musical skills but their profound desire to help children find ways to communicate.

And finally, there are those of you who keep the whole organisation ticking from afar by helping to fund the work. From supporters who make and sell delicious jam to funders that take the time to consider our applications, we thank you all equally.

Whatever your connection to Jessie's Fund, you all have a much valued and important role in helping children communicate. We hope you will stay with us as we move into another exciting year. Our door is open to you all.

Nancy Maguire, Chair of Trustees



Bringing music to specialist school settings

This year has seen a wonderfully diverse programme of work across our family music sessions and projects in specialist schools. It included 12 five-day projects, three development projects and four one-day projects, across Manchester, London, Plymouth, Leeds, Southport, Norwich, Wakefield, Birmingham, Northumberland and Walsall. It also included the start of our three-year project funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, with our first one-year school development project beginning at Springwood Primary School in Manchester. We have a strong history with the school, working with them on numerous five-day projects. We are pleased to have started working with six of their teaching staff, up-skilling them in music delivery with their pupils and embedding musical interaction into their curriculum. Katie Axworthy, Music Subject Leader at Springwood Primary School, has commented: “There is always a buzz in the air around school when Jamie (Jessie’s Fund musician) is visiting and both staff and pupils are excited. Jamie has supported the music champions to deliver music in a way that is much calmer, more purposeful and more engaging. All of the music champions have commented on how, previously, music was often a chaotic and over-stimulating session, whereas with Jamie's support it is now a session with more structure and direction.”

Funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation marks an important milestone with our work and enables us to futureproof our schools programme. This project will host a further three school development projects; bring together a national network of previous, current and future schools we will be working with; and introduce an accreditation framework across our five-day and one-year projects.



“We certainly appreciate our daughter was given the opportunity to join, progress and develop with music. She absolutely enjoyed every class with a smile on her face and rhythm in her heart. She was coming home every week with a new song, that she kept singing.”

During this year, we were fortunate enough to receive funding from the Morrisons Foundation to host a series of early years music projects in Kirklees and Newcastle. It has enabled us to firmly embed musical interaction into support for pre-school children with complex needs and their families. We have also delivered training activities across nurseries and portage services in Lewisham, London and York, with several new training opportunities lined up for 2026/27 as this work continues to expand and flourish.

Changing lives on children's hospital wards

In 2025/26 we continued to support music therapy on children's hospital wards across the UK, from work in neonatal intensive care units to young adults with neuro-disabilities on residential wards, with a focus on making connections and memories.

We gave funding to Cornwall Music Service Trust to deliver music therapy on the NICU at Treliske Hospital in Truro. A highly specialised music therapist delivered 30 sessions to premature babies and their families.



One family shared: "We have benefitted hugely from these sessions, they became an anchor point for our week and something to look forward to and give us some perspective of the time/day. The music provided comfort for us all. It was grounding to listen to the music and try to zone out other machine noise...it manages to cut through what can be a very stressful overstimulating environment. They provided an opportunity for us to share our feelings and just be listened to."

We also supported a children's heart ward in Northern Ireland to establish music therapy provision. One four-year-old boy undergoing regular blood draws and cardiac monitoring developed a fear of needles, often resulting in crying, resistance, and in turn, prolonged procedures. The Music Therapist quickly got to know him and used his favourite songs to create a "musical story adventure". The story was tailored so that the "superhero" would "power up" with music to face a "tiny challenge" (the needle). Over several visits, his distress decreased and he began focusing on the music instead of the medical equipment, allowing nurses to take blood more quickly. His heart rate before procedures dropped from elevated levels to within normal range, and he reported afterward that he felt "brave".

> "While the doctors and nurses fought to keep her alive, the music therapist was the only one who provided her with positive life experiences in the hospital, and his therapy sessions were the only bright spot in the darkest time of our lives."

Transformational music in children's hospices

We funded part of a new music therapy post at Andy's Children's Hospice Services, within St Andrew's Hospice in Grimsby. In total, we funded 125 sessions for 33 children and young people and their family members. One young person whose life was transformed by the sessions is Louise.

Louise is 14 years old and has had a profound response to music throughout her life. She lives with a range of complex medical conditions, including epilepsy, global development delay, cerebral palsy and being registered blind. Music therapy empowers and enables Louise to engage with the world around her, especially when other forms of interaction can be challenging for her to access. Louise listened with complete focus and used her voice with purpose and musical intent during her sessions. Throughout her musical interactions, she vocalised with a definite sense of excitement and delight.

"As you enter the room you see our daughter raising her left arm (that is hardly ever used) and plucking the strings to an instrument or searching to feel the vibrations coming from it and witness the pure joy on her face and in her voice as she is in that moment. She laughs, she giggles and as a father who for years has watched her go through so many operations and so much pain, to see her actually enjoy her life so much in these sessions is truly amazing. To watch her engage, to see her share such precious, elevating and profound moments, brings joy to my heart and music is the only thing that can do this."



In 2026 – 2027, we plan to work with our partners in children's palliative care services to improve equity of access to music therapy and creative music activities for children and young people with life-limiting conditions. We will run bespoke training sessions, in partnership with music therapy and staff teams, as well as hosting online events sharing best practice across the sector, to increase the number of children and young people who will benefit from the power of music when they need it most.

Building the way forward together

As well as our annual Making Music course and our RNCM Creative Residency, this year we hosted our 30th Anniversary conference 'Building the way forward together'. The day focused on how to continue to build good practice in using music to give a voice to seriously ill and disabled children. The conference was attended by a range of parents and professionals, including teachers, music therapists and music leaders. It featured an example creative music session with pupils and staff from a partnership school in Manchester, as well as the launch of the book 'Music Therapy in Children's Palliative Care: Collaborative Family and Practitioner Voices' edited by Vicky Kammin and Julie Russell. We were joined by the book's co-authors (many of whom started their career in hospice posts funded by Jessie's Fund), including several parents who courageously shared their experiences of music therapy for their children with life-limiting illness.

"It included everyone that Jessie's Fund impacts, with young people with additional needs demonstrating their musical skills and enjoyment, music students demonstrating what they're learning from their involvement in projects, community musicians showing their skills, bereaved parents describing how you helped them. It felt extremely inclusive, innovative, accessible - really illustrated how music and Jessie's Fund can level the playing field and enable everyone to participate and shine."

35 participants attended our annual Making Music course in York and London, including music hub staff, hospice play workers, parents, teachers and community theatre workshop leaders. All participants told us they had good or excellent knowledge at the end of the course and that their confidence had increased. The practical, hands-on nature of the course and how this makes it instantly applicable was noted, as well as how it supports future career aspirations: "I was very impressed and surprised with the introduction to singing. The relaxation done before made it much more relaxed and easy to start humming then singing and the result was amazing. If anything, this course made me want to be a music therapist even more than before."



Enabling access to Music Therapy

In 2025 – 26, we funded 411 sessions of music therapy for 46 seriously ill and disabled children and young people across all four nations of the UK. As the cost-of-living crisis continues to impact families and services remain stretched, it is vital that we continue to offer this funding to children and families who have no other way of accessing or funding music therapy sessions. Because of these grants, children and young people were reported to have an increased use of their voice and showed clear progress in confidence, communication, and musical expression, including for Caryn:

"Caryn relishes making her own sounds and feeling connected to another person if they respond to her. Music therapy therefore offered her valuable experiences of feeling in control, regulating and expressing herself following periods of medical trauma, and offering her a sense of agency. She could sustain each interaction for several minutes, showing her genuine interest and enjoyment in interacting and expressing herself using a variety of sounds and her voice."



Reports received following individual grant funding for music therapy also indicated that outcomes for children and young people included: increased motivation and enthusiasm; improved ability to engage with learning and the world around them outside their session; being happier and less anxious; and being able to stay regulated and explore difficult emotions in a safe space following their block of sessions.

"Emily loves her music. It's nice for her to have something she loves in her own home. She engages so well in her own environment. Music therapy gives her something she genuinely enjoys and we can join in as a family."



Our Strategic Priorities for 2026 – 2027



As we celebrated 30 years of music helping children in 2025, our Founder Lesley Schatzberger received a much-deserved OBE in the King's Birthday Honours list for Services to Children with Life-Limiting Illnesses and Communication Difficulties. It has also been a time of reflection and strategic planning, as we continue Lesley's mission of giving a voice to children through music.

In 2026 – 2027, we will increase our reach through our work with children's hospice and hospital partners, as well as through our digital resource offerings. Our new accreditation framework and schools network will allow us to expand our enduring impact in specialist school settings. We will use improved mechanisms to gather feedback, so that any growth of our work to reach more children will not be at the expense of the quality of the musical activities we deliver. In order to achieve these aims, we will maintain our financial reserves, increase our income from diverse sources and ensure that we have the necessary skills and capacity within our staff team to do so.

With thanks to our funders:

Anthony and Elizabeth Mellows Charitable Trust
Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust
Arimathea Charitable Trust
Arlish and Chambers Charity
Corvo Foundation
Martyn Donaldson Music Trust
Morrisons Foundation
Nuthatch Foundation
Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Peter Sowerby Foundation
Promenaders Musical Charities
Plastow Family Charitable Trust
Shepherd Street Trust
Sylvia and Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust
The Barry Anthony Newsam Charitable Trust
The CPF Trust
The Liz and Terry Bramall Foundation
The William Leech Charity

Policies

Governing document
Jessie's Fund's governing document is a Deed of Trust authorised by the Charity Commission on 25 March 1995 and amended on 15 February 2013 and 30 June 2021.

Organisational structure
The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for the charity. The minimum number of Trustees as set out in our governing document is four, each engaged for a five-year term of office (changed from two-year terms by a Supplementary Deed of Trust dated 30 June 2021). On 31 March 2026 there were ten Trustees. Trustees may offer themselves for re-election for a further term on completion of their first term of office. There is an additional Advisory Board of two people and an Honorary Treasurer. The daily running of the charity is coordinated by the Executive Director, Deputy Director (Education), the Administrator and the Projects Assistant.

Appointment and induction of trustees
Appointment of trustees is by invitation: emphasis is placed on relevant expertise. Our trustees' areas of expertise include:

- medicine
- mental health
- music
- arts management
- voluntary sector
- fundraising
- disability
- business development

Newly appointed trustees are given induction packs, including a copy of our governing document and a guide to the responsibilities of trustees. They also spend time being thoroughly briefed by the Executive Director. They are shown videos of our work with children and invited to observe, and even to take part in, our music-making training courses.

Risk management
The Trustees have considered the risks affecting the organisation, particularly those concerning the flow of funds to meet the programme and the importance of key persons. The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- an annual review of the risks and uncertainties that the charity faces.
- the establishment of policies, systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the annual review.
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.
- a reserves policy.

Reserves policy
It is the Trustees' policy to designate funds to cover planned commitments for future charitable activities. The charity is dependent on grants, donations and fundraising events for its income, which is subject to fluctuating economic circumstances. To ensure that Jessie's Fund will be able to implement its planned commitments, we maintain our reserves to remain operational in adverse financial conditions.

The Trustees have reviewed this policy and the required commitments in the light of the charity's current and forecast programme and have decided that the appropriate amount for our six months core operating reserves is £79,604. This is included within our designated funds.

In line with Charity Commission guidance, the trustees have considered the risk to the charity, its beneficiaries and staff in the very unlikely event that we would need to close the charity. To manage this risk, we would require £69,500 to enable a closure of the charity that takes into account the existing obligations to our beneficiaries, partners, freelance team and office staff. Any remaining assets or funds would be donated to a similar charitable organisation or children's hospice charity.

At 31 March 2026, our unrestricted, undesignated reserves amounted to £68,012.

Grant-making policy
Jessie's Fund has an ongoing commitment to award grants to projects which meet our criteria as set out in our statement of objectives. We have adopted the following process for awarding grants:

- an annual budget is allocated for grants;
- all requests for grants of over £1,000 are considered by trustees at the Spring meeting;
- Trustees have delegated responsibility for approval of grants below £1,000 to the administrative team (Executive Director and Administrator) where appropriate;
- where a grant applicant is unsuccessful we endeavour to provide constructive and helpful feedback.



Financial and Legal Reports for the year ended March 2026

Treasurer's report

I am delighted to report that Jessie's Fund's financial position remains strong. We closed the year with a modest deficit of £19,664, carrying forward £217,335 of reserves into the next financial year of 2026 – 27. The Board of Trustees regularly monitor our reserves levels and considers that our reserves continue to sit comfortably within a healthy band to sustain Jessie's Funds current activities and plans for future growth.

Our reserves of £217,335 are broken down as follows, as at 31 March 2026:

- funds restricted to specific projects: £51,903
- funds we have designated to run our projects in the near term: £97,420
- unrestricted, undesignated: £68,012

Jessie's Fund's projects reach hundreds of children and young adults with serious illness, disabilities or additional special needs across the UK. The deep and tangible impacts on them and their families jump from the pages of this report.

None of this work would be possible without the support of our donors and grant funders. I echo our Chair's thanks to all who have supported Jessie's Fund this year. Each contribution is important and greatly valued.

Our income from donations and legacies this year was a little under £250,000 (including gift aid rebates). Around 45% of this income stream (£113,000) came from grants from trusts, a real testament to the application work put in by Jessie's Fund's team. These grants bring financial stability to our existing projects. They also enable us to develop our new initiatives, such as Jessie's Fund's new national schools' network and our accreditation framework across schools projects. These new projects build on Jessie's Fund's legacy and engagement with our Special Schools programme.

Income from donations (mainly from individuals), which sits within the above £250,000 figure, was around £78,000. While steady, this was lower than hoped (income from donations in the previous year was £137,000). To address this stasis, this past year has seen the development of our new Income Generation Strategy. The strategy focuses on better engagement with our regular donors and acquiring major new donors. We recognise the importance of building trust in and recognition of Jessie's Fund's work and constantly seek opportunities to showcase our work. We are strengthening our digital presence to broaden our reach, delivered through the new website, offering video resources and an extended digital resource library.

Results from our Income Generation Strategy will take time to manifest, and we continue to carefully monitor and adjust our expenditure in order to safeguard our long-term sustainability. For example, the Board of Trustees took the decision to make no grants this year to other organisations' music therapy or creative music projects.

We continue to support music therapy for individual applicants and in children's hospices, with grant funding of £37,000 along with a further £19,000 spent on our music therapy projects and sessions in hospitals (both figures exclude our central support costs for administering them).

Our programme in specialist school settings continues to make significant progress in schools' engagement across the UK, evidenced by expenditure of just under £150,000 on this project (previous year's expenditure was c. £126,000), excluding our support costs to run the projects.

Income from fundraising events, many marking Jessie's Fund's 30th Anniversary, was £29,000, with expenditure of £13,000.

Support costs, including staff salaries, amounted to just over £96,000. Our support team in York, while small, has an immense impact, thanks to their dedication and skill in steering Jessie's Fund's charitable projects and fundraising activities.

Lindsey Woods, Honorary Treasurer



Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 of the Charity for that period. In preparing these 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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable accounting standards 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 maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF JESSIE'S FUND

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Jessie's Fund (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2026, which are set out on pages 19 to 31.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examination 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 examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Trust's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) 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; or
4. the accounts 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 the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Emma Collier, FCA, DChA
HPH, Chartered Accountants
54 Bootham, York, YO30 7XZ

19th November 2026

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2026

		2026			2025
	Note	**£**	**£**	**£**	£
Income from:		**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**	Total
Donations and legacies	*2a)*	136,463	110,916	247,379	283,006
Other trading activities	*2b)*	32,859	406	33,265	21,008
Investment	*2c)*	2,991	-	2,991	10,106
Charitable activities	*2d)*	29,132	-	29,132	22,429
Total income		**201,445**	**111,322**	**312,767**	336,549
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	*3*	26,865	8,593	35,458	31,204
Charitable activities	*3*	191,099	105,874	296,973	336,183
Total expenditure		**217,964**	**114,467**	**332,431**	367,387
Net (expenditure)/ income		(16,519)	(3,145)	**(19,664)**	(30,838)
Transfers between funds		-	-	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		(16,519)	(3,145)	(19,664)	(30,838)
Funds brought forward at 1 April 2025		181,951	55,048	**236,999**	267,837
Funds carried forward at 31 March 2026		**165,432**	**51,903**	**217,335**	**236,999**

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2026

	Note	£ 2026	£ 2025
Fixed Assets	*8*	**2,089**	**2,786**
Current Assets			
Stock	*9*	**1,549**	**2,562**
Debtors	*10*	**7,684**	**26,096**
Cash at bank and in hand		**221,565**	**231,340**
		230,798	259,998
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors	*11*	**15,552**	**25,785**
Net Current Assets		**215,246**	**234,213**
Total assets less current liabilities		**217,335**	**236,999**
Total Net Assets		**217,335**	**236,999**
The Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted - designated	*14*	**97,420**	**118,020**
Unrestricted - undesignated		**68,012**	**63,931**
Restricted	*13*	**51,903**	**55,048**
	12	**217,335**	**236,999**

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 19 November 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Nancy Maguire (Chair)



Liz Varlow (Vice Chair)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended March 2026

1 Accounting Policies

a) Basis of Accounting
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by 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), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and 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 relevant version of the 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) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in existence for the foreseeable future. They continue to believe the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the financial statements.

Jessie's Fund meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

b) Depreciation policy
Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets in use at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:
Office equipment – at 25% reducing balance
Computers – at 25% reducing balance
Music equipment – at 25% reducing balance
We do not capitalise any item under £150 value on purchase.

c) Stocks and work in progress
Stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

d) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

e) Cash at bank
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and any short-term deposit accounts with a maturity of three months or less from the opening date.

f) 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 normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

g) Income
Interest receivable is accounted for on an accrual's basis.
Gift Aid is included based on amounts recoverable at the accounting date.
Donated services are only included in income where another party is bearing the financial cost of the resources supplied and the benefit is quantifiable, receivable and material. Donated services are valued at the lower of the cost borne by the party bearing the cost and a reasonable estimate of the value of the donation to the Charity.
A legacy is regarded as received when it has become reasonably certain that the legacy will be received, and the value of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Voluntary income arising from events, principally sponsorship, is recognised in the period in which the event takes place.
Grant income is recognised when the Charity is entitled to receipt.
Other income is accounted for in the year in which it was received.

h) Funds
The charity's funds consist of restricted and unrestricted amounts as shown in the Statements of Financial Activities.
Unrestricted funds may be used at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the charity's objects.
Restricted funds may only be used in accordance with the donors' wishes as shown in note 13.

i) Expenditure
Grants payable are accounted for in the year in which the grant was paid. All expenses are accounted for on an accrual's basis. Direct costs are allocated to the key strategic areas of activity.
Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities which raise funds. (See note 3).
Charitable activities are those activities which are undertaken to meet our charitable objectives. (See note 3).
Support costs include management functions and have been allocated to key strategic areas of activity on a basis consistent with the use of resources. (See note 3).
Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity which relate to the strategic running of the charity and its assets and are primarily concerned with constitutional and statutory requirements. These are distinct from costs associated with fundraising or charitable activity. (See note 3).

j) Taxation
Jessie's Fund is a registered charity and is generally exempt from tax on income and gains. The charity is not registered for Value Added Tax.

2 Income from:

a) Donations and legacies

	2026			2025
	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**	Total
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Friends' subscriptions	16,466	-	**16,466**	19,287
Miscellaneous donations	31,400	19,754	**51,154**	103,614
In Celebration & In Memoriam donations	9,802	-	**9,802**	13,738
Legacies	42,250	-	**42,250**	43,331
Grants from Trusts and Statutory Grants	21,379	91,162	**112,541**	85,929
Gift Aid tax refunds	15,166	-	**15,166**	17,107
Total income from donations and legacies	136,463	110,916	**247,379**	283,006

The Charity also benefits from the involvement and enthusiastic support of a small number of volunteers who help with administration, on an ad hoc basis. In accordance with Charities SORP, the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

b) Other trading activities

Fundraising events	28,745	406	**29,151**	18,063
Merchandise income	4,114	-	**4,114**	2,945
	32,859	**406**	**33,265**	21,008

c) Investment income

Interest received on cash deposits	2,991	-	**2,991**	10,106

d) Charitable activities

Jessie's Fund programme in Special Schools	17,498	-	**17,498**	12,703
Training courses	11,634	-	**11,634**	9,726
	29,132	-	**29,132**	22,429
Total income	**201,445**	**111,322**	**312,767**	**336,549**

In 2025 the only restricted income was £100,617 in donations and legacies.

3 Expenditure on:

Charitable activities	Direct activity undertaken	Grant funding of activities	Support costs	Total 2026	Total 2025
					£
Music therapy / creative music projects/research	-		8,545	**8,545**	39,244
Music therapists in children's hospices	116	15,260	6,267	**21,643**	23,788
Music therapy - individuals	-	21,839	11,393	**33,232**	56,898
Jessie's Fund programme in Special Schools	148,905	-	11,172	**160,077**	137,563
Hospitals creative project	2,579	-	11,393	**13,972**	16,786
MT in hospitals training and general expenses	15,483	-	-	**15,483**	16,046
Instruments		-	-	**-**	-
Governance	-	-	18,605	**18,605**	26,429
Training courses and workshops	16,871	-	8,545	**25,416**	19,429
	183,954	**37,099**	**75,920**	**296,973**	336,183
Raising funds					
Fundraising events	12,796	-	18,205	**31,001**	27,310
Fundraising trading	2,434	-	2,023	**4,457**	3,894
	15,230	**-**	**20,228**	**35,458**	31,204
Total expenditure	**199,184**	**37,099**	**96,148**	**332,431**	367,387

Charitable activities totalling £ 114,467 (2025: £86,486) were allocated to restricted funds.

Analysis of support costs

	Charitable activities	Costs of raising funds	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
Staffing	60,693	15,173	**75,866**	**80,233**
Information resources & staff training	-	569	**569**	**229**
Trustee expenses	1,536	-	**1,536**	**1,710**
Accountancy and legal fees	3,690	-	**3,690**	**10,966**
Other support costs	9,653	4,137	**13,790**	**12,605**
Depreciation and loss on disposal	697	-	**697**	**930**
	76,269	**19,879**	**96,148**	106,673

4 Direct charitable grants

Direct grants, for music therapy unless otherwise stated, were made from unrestricted funds to institutions as follows:

	£
Alexander Devine Children's Hospice	5,000
Haven House Children's Hospice	5,000
Rainbow Children's Hospice	3,900
Zoe's Place Baby Hospice (Coventry)	1,360
Total direct grants	**15,260**

5 Staff Costs

	2026	2025
	£	£
Gross salaries and wages	116,203	70,643
Employer's pension contributions	4,648	2,683
Other staff/human resources costs	3,928	6,907
	124,779	80,233

The average number of employees in the year was 4 (2025 - 4). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000 in the year (2025 - none).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, the Executive Director and Deputy Director (Education). The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £55,942 (2025 - £45,633).

6 Trustees

No Trustee has received any remuneration during the year. Trustees' travel and other expenses were paid or reimbursed to the trustees, amounting in the year to £1,068 (Expenses reimbursed to the trustees in 2025: £1,710).

During the year a total of £7,158 (2025: £3,142) was donated to the charity by related parties, including trustees. There were no other related party transactions in the year.

7 Audit and accountancy fees

	2026	2025
	£	£
Independent examination	3,690	3,486

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment	Computers	Music equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
To 1 April 2025	1,073	6,293	4,394	11,760
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2026	**1,073**	**6,293**	**4,394**	**11,760**
Depreciation				
To 1 April 2025	1,001	4,903	3,070	8,974
Charge for the year	18	348	331	697
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2026	**1,019**	**5,251**	**3,401**	**9,671**
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2026	**54**	**1,042**	**993**	**2,089**
At 31 March 2025	72	1,390	1,324	2,786

9 Stock

	2026	2025
	£	£
Goods for resale	1,549	2,562

10 Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	7,684	26,096

11 Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	12,567	23,242
Taxation and social security	2,985	2,543
	15,552	25,785

Deferred income:		
Deferred income at 1 April	2,291	-
Resources deferred in the year	-	2,291
Released from the previous year	(2,291)	-
Deferred income as at 31 March	-	2,291

In the year the Charity deferred funds received in advance of providing services to users.

12 Analysis of the charity's assets by fund

	Restricted	Unrestricted		Total
		Designated	Undesignated	
Current year	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Fixed Assets	1,006	-	1,083	2,089
Current Assets	57,531	97,420	75,847	230,798
	58,537	97,420	76,930	232,887
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(6,634)	-	(8,918)	(15,552)
Total Net Assets	51,903	97,420	68,012	217,335

	Restricted	Unrestricted		Total
		Designated	Undesignated	
Comparative year	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Fixed Assets	1,342	-	1,444	2,786
Current Assets	53,706	118,020	88,272	259,998
	55,048	118,020	89,716	262,784
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	(25,785)	(25,785)
Total Net Assets	55,048	118,020	63,931	236,999

13 Restricted funds 2025 – 2026

Source of funds	Purpose	Balance at 1.4.2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.3.2026 £
Anonymous donation	Newsletter mailing	-	675	675	-	-
Anonymous donation	Music-making training course	11	-	11	-	-
Anonymous donation	Hospital music therapy	10,750	-	10,750	-	-
Good Gifts Catalogue	Individual music therapy sessions	784	745	784		745
The Holbeck Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	38	-	38	-	-
Leeds Building Society Charitable Trust	Equipment	11	-	4	-	7
Lynn Foundation	Equipment	33	-	9	-	24
Garfield Weston Foundation	Schools' programme	9,389		9,389	-	-
The Feoffees of St Michael's Spurriergate	Schools' programme	784	-	784	-	-
Big Give	Individual music therapy sessions	3,693	-	3,693	-	-
Big Give	Schools' programme		23,334	11,767	-	11,567
Joyce Fletcher Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	2,000	-	2,000	-	-
Jack Brunton Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	1,694	-	1,694	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	Family Learning	2,983	-	2,983	-	-
Barbara Ward Children's foundation	Schools' programme	1,313	-	1,313	-	-
Rhododendron Trust	Individual music therapy sessions	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
29th May 1961 Trust	Schools' programme	3,000	-	3,000	-	-
Crispa Charitable Trust	Hospital music therapy	2,571	-	2,571	-	-
Corvo Foundation	Fundraising	1,944	6,612	8,556	-	-
Victoria Wood Foundation	30th Anniversary Conference	5,963	-	5,963	-	-
Belacqua Charitable Trust	Individual music therapy sessions	2,000		2,000	-	-
York Children's Trust	Schools' programme	2,087	-	2,087	-	-
Boshier-Hinton Foundation	Schools' programme	2,000	-	2,000	-	-
Felicity Wilde Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
Promenader's Musical Charity	Schools's programme	-	15,306	14,510	-	796
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	School's programme	-	35,000	12,614	-	22,386
Morrisons' Foundation	Family Learning	-	9,900	2,522	-	7,378
The William Leech Charity	School's programme	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Barcapel Foundation	Hospital music therapy	-	4,000	4,000	-	-
The CPF Trust	School's programme	-	1,500	1,500	-	-
Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust	Hospital music therapy	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Shepherd Street Trust	School's programme	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Peter Sowerby	School's programme	-	5,250	5,250	-	-
		55,048	111,322	114,467	-	51,903

Restricted Funds 2024 – 2025

RESTRICTED FUNDS 2024-2025		Balance at 1.4.2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31.3.2025
Anonymous donation	Newsletter mailing	-	415	415	-	-
Anonymous donation	Music-making training course	-	2,200	475	- 1,714	11
Anonymous donation	Hospital music therapy	-	21,000	10,250	-	10,750
Good Gifts Catalogue	Individual music therapy sessions	588	784	588	-	784
Wise Music Foundation	Schools' programme	2,517	-	2,517	-	-
The Holbeck Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	3,000	-	2,962	-	38
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	710	-	710	-	-
Leeds Building Society Charitable Trust	Equipment	19	-	8	-	11
Lynn Foundation	Equipment	50	-	17	-	33
Garfield Weston Foundation	Schools' programme	2,183	10,000	2,794	-	9,389
The Samuel Gardner Memorial Trust	Schools' programme	1,500	-	1,500	-	-
The Postlethwaite Music Foundation	Individual music therapy sessions	-	2,000	2,000	-	-
The Feoffees of St Michael's Spurriergate	Schools' programme	1,364	-	580	-	784
Big Give	Individual music therapy sessions	1,595	20,127	18,029	-	3,693
The HBJ Trust	Music Therapy (York Hospital)	5,304	4,500	9,804	-	-
John Horniman's Children's Trust	Schools' programme	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
ARN Foundation	Schools' programme	1,363	-	1,363	-	-
Joyce Fletcher Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
The Arts Society	Schools' programme	450	-	450	-	-
Jack Brunton Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	3,000	-	1,306	-	1,694
National Lottery Community Fund	Family Learning	7,353	-	4,370	-	2,983
Barbara Ward Children's foundation	Schools' programme	5,000	-	3,687	-	1,313
Wade's Charity	Hospital creative music	32	-	32	-	-
Warbutons Community Grants	Family Learning	343	-	343	-	-
The Harold Hyam Wingate Foundation	Schools' programme	2,260	-	2,260	-	-
Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	2,000	-	2,000	-	-
Rhododendron Trust	Individual music therapy sessions	-	2,000	1,000	-	1,000
29th May 1961 Trust	Schools' programme	-	6,000	3,000	-	3,000
George Oliver Foundation	Schools' programme	-	3,310	3,310	-	-
Douglas Arter Foundation	Schools' programme	-	500	500	-	-
David Solomons Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Crispa Charitable Trust	Hospital music therapy	-	5,000	2,429	-	2,571
Corvo Foundation	Fundraising	-	1,944	-	-	1,944
Michael Bishop Foundation	Schools' programme	-	2,925	2,925	-	-
Victoria Wood Foundation	30th Anniversary Conference	-	5,972	9	-	5,963
Belacqua Charitable Trust	Individual music therapy sessions	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
York Children's Trust	Schools' programme	-	2,940	853	-	2,087
Boshier-Hinton Foundation	Schools' programme	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Felicity Wilde Charitable Trust	Schools' programme	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
		42,631	100,617	86,486	- 1,714	55,048

14 Designated funds

DESIGNATED FUNDS 2025-2026

To 31 March 2027 unless otherwise stated

	Balance at 1.4.2025	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31.3.2026
	£	£	£	£
Special Schools creative music programme (to 31 July 2027)	80,068	123,925	109,892	66,035
Music-Making for Special Children Courses	6,467	8,500	7,673	5,640
Music therapy with individuals	14,039	20,000	16,736	10,775
Music therapy in children's hospices	8,025	15,000	13,945	6,970
Music therapy in children's hospitals	9,421	5,000	3,579	8,000
	118,020	172,425	151,825	97,420

DESIGNATED FUNDS 2024-2025

To 31 March 2026 unless otherwise stated

	Balance at 1.4.2024	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31.3.2025
	£	£	£	£
Special Schools creative music programme (to 31 July 2026)	101,885	124,709	102,892	80,068
Music-Making for Special Children Courses	2,050	9,208	13,625	6,467
Music therapy with individuals	15,000	12,522	11,561	14,039
Music therapy in children's hospices	12,080	20,000	15,945	8,025
Music therapy in children's hospitals	18,671	9,250	-	9,421
	149,686	175,689	144,023	118,020

Transfers from unrestricted, undesignated funds unless stated otherwise.

Legal and administrative information

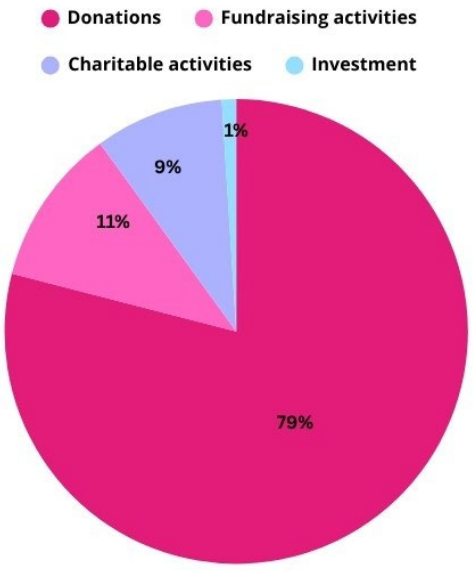
Constitution	Rules adopted 25 March 1995, amended 15 February 2013 and 30 June 2021
Charity Number	Registered Charity No. 1045731
Patrons	Maxine Peake; Trevor Pinnock CBE
Trustees	Nancy Maguire (Chair); Elisabeth Varlow (Vice Chair); Steven Burkeman (resigned 25 June 2026); Alan George; Hannah George; Andrew Grace; Jessica Villiers; Jack Zaborski; Julia Rochester; Charlotte Lincoln
Advisers	Joe Harrison-Greaves; Cathy Ibberson
Honorary Treasurer	Lindsey Woods
Founder	Lesley Schatzberger OBE
Executive Director	Rebecca Ellis
Deputy Director	Hayley Mason
Administrator	Karen Kadow
Projects Assistant	Lisa Williams
Address	15 Priory Street, York, YO1 6ET
Telephone Email Website	01904 658189 info@jessiesfund.org.uk www.jessiesfund.org.uk
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA HSBC Bank plc, 13 Parliament Street, York, YO1 8XS
Independent Examiner	Emma Collier, FCA, BFP, DChA HPH, Chartered Accountants, 54 Bootham, York, YO30 7XZ



Summary of Financial Activities, 2025 – 2026

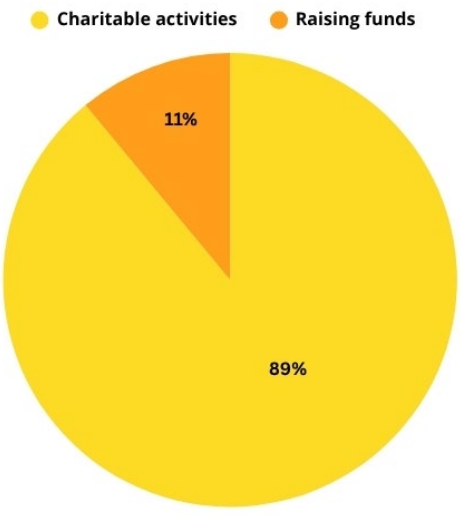
Income

Donations and legacies	£247,379
• Grants 46%	
• Donations 31%	
• Legacies 17%	
• Gift Aid tax refunds 6%	
Other fundraising activities	£33,265
Income from other charitable activities	£29,132
Investment income	£2,991
Total	£312,761



Expenditure

Charitable activities	£296,973
Raising funds	£35,458
Total	£332,431







Jessie's Fund, 15 Priory Street, York, YO1 6ET

Tel: 01904 658189 info@jessiesfund.org.uk www.jessiesfund.org.uk

Registered charity number 1045731