The UK Association for Music Education – Music Mark

UNAUDITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended

31 March 2026

Company Registration No 6134823

Charity Registration No 1118542

The UK Association for Music Education – Music Mark

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Company Name	The UK Association for Music Education – Music Mark
Registered Company Number	6134823
Registered Charity Number	1118542
Registered Office	Southgate Chambers 37-39 Southgate Street Winchester SO23 9EH
Board of Trustees	Peter Bolton (Treasurer until July 2025) - Resigned October 2025 John Calister - Elected November 2025 Yogesh Dattani - Resigned October 2025 Philip Flood - Elected November 2025 Janice Ford - Co-opted November 2021 Steven Robert Greenall (Treasurer from July 2025) - Elected January 2025 Jennifer Susan Henley - Elected November 2024 Sarah Louise Lee - Elected October 2023 Clair McColl - Resigned November 2025 Ciaran George O'Donnell - Elected October 2023 Charlotte Erica Payne - Elected November 2024 Gemma Price - Resigned November 2025 Peter Nicholas Smalley (Chair) - Co-opted October 2023
Champions	Nathaniel Dye Kris Halpin Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason Faz Shah
Company Secretary and Chief Executive	Bridget Whyte
Independent Examiner	Liv Burrell ACA CTA Knox Cropper LLP 65-68 Leadenhall Street London EC3A 2AD
Bankers	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Bates Wells 10 Queen Street Place London EC4R 1BE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees (who are also directors for the purposes of company law) present their report and the financial statements of the UK Association for Music Education – Music Mark (the "Charity" or "Music Mark") for the year ended 31 March 2026. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", to be compliant with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 2 forms part of this report. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 18-19 and comply with the applicable law, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the requirements of the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable Objects

As stated in its Memorandum of Articles and Association, Music Mark's charitable objects are to advance the education of the public in the art of music.

Music Mark is a membership organisation for music education professionals with both individual and organisation membership options. Organisations include local authority and independent Music Services, for other music education organisations, their teaching and support teams, their partners and schools. We advocate on behalf of those members meaning that we 'speak and act in support of music as a subject, and we promote best practice'. We strive to ensure that all stakeholders understand the value and life-changing potential of music for all children and young people.

Music Mark is also a subject association. Subject associations speak for their subject communities; they are able to undertake research into their members' concerns and to reflect these back to policy makers. A subject association is never only one lone voice but instead is the collective voice of their subject community: working to ensure the highest quality of teaching.

Principal Activities

Music Mark's vision is:

Accessible and excellent musical learning and engagement inspiring and enriching the lives of all children and young people.

It meets its charitable objects in pursuit of its vision through its mission:

Supporting, connecting and influencing in pursuit of a high quality, equitable, diverse, inclusive music education for all children and young people.

Music Mark's four strategic priorities for 2023-2026, together with a set of internal objectives to underpin these priorities was published in March 2023

Support	We will provide an engaging, rigorous and diverse programme of training and professional development. Training will include topics such as leadership, fundraising, good governance and marketing. Professional Development opportunities will include peer-to-peer mentoring, professional coaching and conferences for practitioners and leaders. We will challenge established ways of working to employ new and innovative ways of delivering training, ensuring our support is structured in a way that is truly useful for multiple organisation types in the sector.
Partnerships	At a national level we will strengthen our existing partnerships as well as build and implement new partnerships within and beyond the music and education sectors. We will also advocate for the importance of partnerships at a local and regional level though a UK-wide campaign which promotes and champions the value of partnership working, supporting our members to develop fruitful and productive partnership through our toolkits and resources. We will use partnerships with others to ensure children and young people across the UK, including from areas of particularly low cultural engagement, have access to a quality music education.
Advocacy	We will continue to advocate at a local, regional and national level for the importance of music education and will develop and deliver relevant, needs driven, campaigns ourselves and with partners. We will, in partnership, continue to collate resources and provide support and role modelling to the wider sector around governance, workforce, participation and programming. We will maintain our role in helping to shape policy by bringing insights from the sector to the right people in government and arms-length bodies across the UK, and highlight activity from across the UK on the international stage.
Insights and Impact	We will commission and champion high quality research and its outcomes, making a digestible and navigable library of evidence available to the sector, in particular filling gaps in current sector knowledge. We aim to support the sector to increase their data literacy, carry out their own research and make data-driven decisions. We will also evaluate our impact as a membership organisation on the organisations and individuals we support as well as the impact of our work on the children and young people who access music education in the UK.
The UK Association for Music Education - Music Mark	In order to deliver our strategic priorities there are also things we plan to do internally to increase the rigor and sustainability of the organisation and to put us in the optimal position to realise our goals. This includes our plans to: • review and augment our Advisory Committee to be more representative of the sector and create additional consultative groups. • continue to regularly and meaningfully consult our members. • create a National Youth Council for Music Education to influence our priorities. • build capacity within the organisation to support the delivery of this plan and diversify the staff team. • work to become more financially resilient as a result of diversifying our income streams through fundraising.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have referred to the guidance offered by the Charity Commission in reviewing aims and objectives and in planning activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives and they ensure that these activities are carried out for the public benefit by delivering services that are valued by members and enable those with responsibility in the sector to develop and adopt best practice.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Change remains significant in music education and the reviews carried out by the current Government (elected in July 2024) will have a longer-term impact, particularly in England. Advocacy work in England has therefore continued to be a priority and the Chief Executive, Board and Senior Leadership Team had increased engagement over the year with officials in the Department for Education and also started to regularly talk with the Department for Culture Media and Sport.

At the start of 2026 Music Mark developed a set of recommendations for the next government for the Welsh Senedd in consultation with its membership. These were published in March alongside conversations with outgoing ministers (elections in May 2026 will determine next steps for advocacy here). In Scotland Music Mark continues its close relationships with Music Education Partnership Group, and as the UK Association for Music Education it convened a meeting for the four nations to share and learn from each other in November (at the Annual Conference) and plans are in place for further meetings ongoing.

The Music Mark Annual Conference in 2025 took place in Nottingham – our second year at this venue. The theme was ambition and quality in music education. As with the 2024 conference, it was very well attended with 276 delegates, 76 speakers and 67 exhibitors, all of which were increases from 2024. In addition, we welcomed young people as performers from across the East Midlands and further afield including young people from Lancashire performing with the Royal Marines. The feedback received from both delegates and exhibitors/sponsors was positive.

Over the year Music Mark delivered nearly 200 hours of training and events for over 2,500 attendees. Its social media following grew by over 3,000 and website visits per month were consistently over 50,000 with peaks in October and March of over 80,000. The Jobs pages of the website remain particularly popular with over 10,000 unique views in March 2026 and whilst the number of job adverts purchased has reduced in 2025/26 it remains a significant income source.

Partnerships remain a key priority for Music Mark with ongoing agreements with the ABRSM and the PMLL enabling us to support the membership through specific offers and opportunities. We also continued with our role within the network involved in Young Sounds UK's Music Opportunities Pilot and began work on a new publication in partnership with the Musician's Union to support our Higher Education membership which was published in May 2026. Music Mark continues to work closely with its key funder – Arts Council England – to co-support the Music Hub network across England through training, one-to-one support, advice and resources.

Trustees Report

The Music Mark staff team saw some changes in 2025/26 with three members of staff leaving to move onto new roles. Numbers applying for the vacant roles were significant however which resulted in strong appointments. Rosie Lowe – Partnerships and Engagement Director – was on maternity leave for much of the financial year (her role covered by Gary Griffiths during this time) and returned in January 2026. The key staff announcement during the year however was the resignation of the CEO at the start of 2026. Giving significantly increased notice and setting a leaving date of the end of August 2026, allowed the Board of Trustees to plan a measured recruitment process between February and April 2026. An appointment was made at the end of April 2026 with Jennifer McKie planning to start on the 17th August 2026, ensuring there is a handover between the current and new CEO.

A number of consultants worked with Music Mark as speakers and advisers throughout the year with a particular focus being placed on ensuring diversity of voices being heard within training and events.

A thorough review of the Charity's policies and governance arrangements took place across the 2025/26 financial year, including the tightening of processes, reporting and review of statutory company policies and procedures.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared under the going concern basis. The trustees have reviewed the financial outlook for the next 12 months. The charity has healthy reserves and stable membership income and thus the trustees consider that the charity is a going concern

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Music Mark recorded a surplus of income over expenditure for the year totalling £22,392 compared to a surplus of £31,403 for 2024/25.

Unrestricted income increased this year by £24,830 to £826,697 compared to last year.

Expenditure from unrestricted funding increased by £34,983 to £804,305. This rise was primarily driven by higher payroll costs together with increased overheads such as legal and professional fees and travel. Programme costs also rose, mainly due to increased annual conference expenditure. These were partly offset by reduced education and outreach costs.

Unrestricted reserves increased from £318,082 to £340,474. There are no restricted funds carried forward.

Cash balances increased by £63,732 to £386,558

Reserves Policy

Through careful management of income and expenditure, Music Mark has built up reserves over the past years for general contingency requirements.

The Trustees have reviewed the level of free reserves (those not tied up in fixed assets, designated for a specific purpose or restricted) and consider that a level of free reserves equivalent to three months' management and administration costs to be sufficient to ensure that the Charity could continue to meet the needs of beneficiaries and stakeholders in the event of unexpected, substantial adverse financial circumstances.

Unrestricted reserves standing at £340,474 represent approximately 5.6 months of 2026/27 budgeted management and administration expenditure, excluding costs of delivering conferences, training and other events. This level is therefore in line with the policy.

Arts Council funding, which represents 48% of the Charity's income, has been extended until 31st March 2028. Accordingly, the Trustees will carefully review its Reserves Policy in 2026/27

Investment Policy

The aim of the Investment Policy is to protect the capital value of funds held and, ideally, allow them to be inflation proofed over the long-term. Given the value of funds held and the need to meet short and medium-term requirements, in an environment of low risk-free investment returns, funds are held in an interest-bearing bank deposit account. All income from investments is used for furthering the charitable objectives.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution of the Charity and the nature of the Governing Document

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee (registered number 6134823) and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association (Adopted 18 May 2007, revised 7 February 2013 and 4 November 2021).

The Charity is registered with the Charity Commission (registered number 1118542) and does not have share capital, cannot pay dividends and must utilize all its funds to further its stated charitable objectives.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The appointment of the Board of Trustees is governed by the Charity's constitution. Elected trustees are drawn by nomination from the Membership, with a voting process for eligible Members where there are more candidates than available posts. Elected trustees generally serve for a term of three years ending on the third AGM following election. The Board also has the option to co-opt a further six trustees by skill set to complement the elected board. Co-opted trustees serve for terms of one year which can be renewed at the discretion of the Board for a maximum of six years.

Those who served during the year were:

Peter Bolton (Treasurer until July 2025)	Resigned October 2025
John Callister	Elected November 2025
Yogesh Dattani	Resigned October 2025
Philip Flood	Elected November 2025
Janice Ford	Co-opted November 2021
Steven Robert Greenall (Treasurer from July 2025)	Elected January 2025
Jennifer Susan Henley	Elected November 2024
Sarah Louise Lee	Elected October 2023
Clair McColl	Resigned November 2025
Ciaran George O'Donnell	Elected October 2023
Charlotte Erica Payne	Elected November 2024
Gemma Price	Resigned November 2025
Peter Nicholas Smalley (Chair)	Co-opted October 2023

Induction and Training of New Trustees

All new Trustees attend an induction Trustee Board Meeting where their roles are fully explained. They receive regular information about the work of the charity, where appropriate, signposted to relevant trustee training and, in the view of the Trustees, have enough knowledge of their specific field to understand the nature of the Charity and fully comply with the Charity's current views of its progression. Trustees may claim for reasonable expenses (as determined by an agreed policy) incurred in undertaking the Charity's business, but they receive no remuneration or other financial benefit.

Organisational Structure and Management

According to the Charity's constitution, the Board of Trustees must hold at least three meetings per year to take decisions about the strategic direction and running of the Charity, as guided by the Chief Executive.

Strategic and operational delivery is undertaken by the Chief Executive and a team of directors, managers and officers. Additional, specialist support is brought in by way of a number of freelance contractors and suppliers (including HR, IT and finance).

Equality of Opportunity

Music Mark is committed to a policy of equal opportunities for all employees and to ensuring within the framework of the law that its workplaces are free from unlawful or unfair discrimination. The principles of equality are embedded within the Music Mark ethos and are consistently adhered to in all activity including recruitment (Board and staff), planning and delivering events and services, marketing and communications and within programme development.

Risk management

The Trustees and the Chief Executive pay due care and attention to risk management and it is a standing agenda item at all Board meeting. The Chief Executive, on behalf of the Trustees, maintains an ongoing Risk Register covering all areas of financial, regulatory, business, and operational risk.

The Chief Executive is tasked to alert Trustees to new or increased risks identified in any category so that mitigating actions can be agreed and implemented as appropriate. Risk assessment of all new activities is fully undertaken by way of Trustee discussions and, where necessary, expert advice is sought and followed.

The principal risks faced by the Charity, and the actions to mitigate these risks, are considered to be:

Risk	*Mitigation*
Degree of dependence on Music Service and lead organisation of Music Hub membership income.	Continued review and development of Membership benefits alongside messaging that membership is available to all those working in the music education sector across the UK. The diversifying of income streams to include grants, partnerships and sponsorship.
Uncertainty of future funding from Arts Council England	Continued to maintain a strong working relationship with Arts Council England and work with them to identify the added value Music Mark can bring to their work supporting the Music Hub network in England. Plus, ongoing work to diversify income streams.
Membership dissatisfaction with support services provided.	Understanding by the staff team as to what constitutes success for a membership organisation. Clarity of commitment to purpose, analysis of feedback and to action. Regular regional and peer-group consultation and networking events for Members to ensure understanding of the value of membership. An annual membership survey.
Loss of key staff.	Regular review of remuneration packages, roles and responsibilities and staff support and development opportunities.
Elected trustee body lacking in all relevant skills.	An annual skills audit is carried out and reviewed by the Trustees with co-option of Trustees with desired knowledge areas or skill-sets to supplement those of elected Trustees undertaken.

Related Parties

The trustees (all of whom are classed as directors) and the Chief Executive are considered to be Related Parties.

In carrying out its objectives the Charity works in partnership with other organisations. None of these organisations is a related party within the terms of the SORP.

Funds held on behalf of others

In the ordinary course of business, Music Mark holds and administers funds, from time to time, on behalf of groups of Music Education Organisation Members. Funds are held within Music Mark's bank accounts but are accounted for separately (see Note 17). Disbursement of these funds is made on written agreement from the fund holder(s).

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Music Mark continues to focus on the three core values identified as part of the 2023 to 2026 business plan:

- **Bold**: we are the voice of music education, ambitious for ourselves and the sector, striving for excellence in all that we do and enable.
- **Open**: we are open to new ideas, ways of working, and to diversity of experiences; we create spaces where all are welcome and platform marginalised voices; we are always learning and improving.
- **Useful**: everything we do is relevant and useful for the individuals and organisations we support; we recognise we're not always the expert and believe that partnership working is key.

Our activities also continue to be focused around the four areas of work identified as priorities for 2023-26 and woven into our Investment Principles Support Organisation application to Arts Council England:

- Support – providing an engaging, rigorous and diverse programme of training and professional development for our Membership and the wider Music Education Sector.
- Partnerships – strengthening our existing partnerships and building new ones at a national level and advocating the value of partnership working at a local and regional level.
- Advocacy – advocating at a local, regional and national level for the importance of music education including delivering relevant, needs-driven campaigns and collating and sharing guidance, resources and information which supports a high quality, equitable, diverse and inclusive sector.
- Insights and Impact – commissioning and championing research and its outcomes, promoting the importance of data literacy, and evaluating our impact as a membership association and Investment Principles Support Organisation.

Objectives for 2026/27

During the next year it will remain a key objective for Music Mark to support its membership to navigate change. In England this will specifically be linked to new government policies and programmes including the publication of a new Curriculum and ongoing work to develop updated assessment frameworks following the Curriculum and Assessment Review, the impact of current phased Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation and the establishment of a new National Centre for Arts and Music Education (in September 2026). Across the wider UK, this will include providing support and response to the May elections in the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Senedd and any policy changes arising from this. Music Mark will continue to champion the importance of music education as ongoing increased financial pressures on families, schools and providers across the UK is resulting in increased inequitable access to opportunities. In addition, the Charity will continue to focus on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Sustainability/the climate crisis, and develop and a launch a new campaign linked to music teacher recruitment and retention.

The Board of Trustees and current Chief Executive have agreed upon the following specific activities for the forthcoming year in line with the organisation's charitable objectives:

- Continue to provide regular opportunities for the membership to feed into Music Mark's work in providing support and connections as well as ensuring the voices of members are influencing policy and practice.
- To run online and in-person events and training for all those working in music education as leaders, teachers and support staff, including the Annual Conference (November 2026).
- To specifically provide support to the leaders of music education organisations as they navigate local, regional and national changes through one-to-one conversations, peer mentoring, training, and regional and national meetings.
- Continue to support both schools and Higher and Further Education institutions through resources, networking and training opportunities
- Remain committed to ensuring that Music Mark is equitable, diverse and inclusive in the areas of governance, workforce, audiences and programming and promotes these values to its membership and the wider sector.
- Complete its 3-year contract with Positive Planet in looking at ways in which Music Mark can reduce its carbon footprint and continue to identify ways to support its membership and the wider sector to do so through training and resources.
- To complete the research and development of a campaign which promotes the teaching of music (curriculum and instrumental/vocal learning) to help with ensuring the recruitment and retention of this vital workforce, launching it in the Autumn of 2026.
- Maintain and develop partnerships which ensure that young people's voices are heard at a national level in music education policy and practice. .

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also directors of The UK Association for Music Education – Music Mark for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law 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 charitable company, including the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.
This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMMINATION

For the year ended 31 March 2026 the Charity qualifies for an independent examination of its financial statements.

Approval

Approved by the Trustees on 13th July 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Peter Smalley
Chair of Trustees



REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UK ASSOCIATION FOR MUSIC EDUCATION – MUSIC MARK

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Music Mark

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

The charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ICAEW. 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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.

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.

Liv Burrell ACA CTA

For and on behalf of Knox Cropper LLP

Chartered Accountants

65-68 Leadenhall Street

London

EC3A 2AD

Date: 11/08/2026

The UK Association for Music Education – Music Mark

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2026** £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	407,329	-	407,329	400,614	-	400,614
Charitable activities	3	318,683	-	318,683	314,566	14,076	328,642
Other trading activities	4	93,739	-	93,739	77,357	-	77,357
Investments	5	6,945	-	6,945	9,330	-	9,330
Total income		826,696	-	826,696	801,867	14,076	815,943
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	6	18,875	-	18,875	24,584	-	24,584
Charitable activities	7	712,577	-	712,577	721,963	15,218	737,181
Other	8	72,852	-	72,852	22,775	-	22,775
Total expenditure		804,304	-	804,304	769,322	15,218	784,540
Net income/(expenditure)		22,392	-	22,392	32,545	-1,142	31,403
Transfer		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		22,392	-	22,392	32,545	-1,142	31,403
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		318,082	-	318,082	285,536	1,142	286,678
Total funds carried forward		340,474	-	340,474	318,082	-	318,082

All activities derive from continuing operations.

A Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as all gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 18 to 27 form part of these financial statements

The UK Association for Music Education – Music Mark

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2026

	Note	£	**Total funds 31-Mar-26** £	£	Total funds 31-Mar-25 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	*15*	2,529		2,649	
			2,529		2,649
Current assets:					
Debtors	*16*	69,704		155,182	
Cash at bank and in hand	*17*	386,558		322,826	
Total current assets		456,262		478,008	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	*18*	-118,317		-162,575	
Net current assets			337,945		315,433
Total net assets			340,474		318,082
The funds of the charity:	*20*				
Unrestricted funds			340,474		318,082
Restricted income funds			-		-
Total charity funds			340,474		318,082

For the year ended 31 March 2026 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect accounting records and for the preparation of the accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 2026 and were signed on their behalf by:

Peter Smalley
Chair

Steven Robert Greenall
Trustee and Honorary Treasurer

Registered Company Number 6134823

The UK Association for Music Education – Music Mark

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the Year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Total funds 31-Mar-26 £	Total funds 31-Mar-25 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net Cash provided by (used in) Operating activities	*(See below)*	57,661	- 8,885
Cash flows from investing activities			
Investment income		6,945	9,330
Acquisition of fixed assets		- 874	- 2,969
Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents in the Reporting Period		63,732	- 2,524
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Reporting Period		322,826	325,350
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Reporting Period		386,558	322,826
Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities			
Net movement in funds for the reporting period		22,392	31,403
Adjustments for:			
Investment income		- 6,945	- 9,330
Depreciation		994	320
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		85,477	- 46,055
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		- 44,258	14,776
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		57,661	-8,885
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
Cash at bank		386,558	322,826
Total cash and cash equivalent		386,558	322,826

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 ACCOUNTING CONVENTIONS

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and, as a public benefit entity, also with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities under Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

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 pound.

1.2 GOING CONCERN

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Having carried out regular review of services and provision, and funding, the indication is that the charity will remain solvent. Trustees remain satisfied that the charity has sufficient cash flow to meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

1.3 ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements, nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

1.4 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Assets with a cost in excess of £500 that are intended to be of on-going use to Music Mark in carrying out its activities are capitalised as fixed assets.
Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:
Office Equipment - 3 years on a straight-line basis

1.5 INCOME

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Some Music Service and corporate members' membership fees relate to the twelve months following joining Music Mark. These fees are credited to income pro rata in accordance with the financial year.

Income received in advance of the period or the event to which it relates is shown as deferred income at the balance sheet date.

1.6 EXPENDITURE

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as the liability is incurred and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to each activity.

1.7 VALUE ADDED TAX

The Charity is registered for Value Added Tax and charges and remits and recovers tax as appropriate on its income and expenditure.

1.8 TAXATION

The Charity is regarded as a charitable company for the purposes of corporation tax and, as such, is generally exempt from taxation on its income and gains to the extent that these are applied for charitable purposes, in accordance with Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 and section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.
However, during the year the Charity undertook non-primary purpose trading activities which exceeded the available exemption limits. As a result, the profits arising from these activities are subject to corporation tax.
A corporation tax charge has therefore been recognised in respect of the profits generated from these non-primary purpose trading activities.

1.9 FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the Trustees' discretion.

Restricted funds can only be used for prescribed purposes, within the objects of the Charity, when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular identified purposes. Further explanation of the nature of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

1.10 STAFF AND SUPPORT COSTS

Staff costs are attributed to activities based on estimates of time spent by each member of staff on each activity. The costs of support activities, being General management and Governance as detailed in Notes 9a and 9b, are allocated to the expenditure headings that appear on the Statement of Financial Activities in proportion to the directly attributed staff costs, subject to any specific allowances specified in the terms of the use of restricted funds.

1.11 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11'Basic Financial instruments' of FRS102 to all of its financial instruments. Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables 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.

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at the 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.

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

1.12 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at banks and in hand and short-term deposits with a maturity date of three months or less.

2 INCOME - DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Arts Council England (ACE)	407,064	-	407,064	400,614	-	400,614
Sponsorship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	265	-	265	-	-	-
Total donations and legacies	407,329	-	407,329	400,614	-	400,614

3 INCOME - CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
Membership services:	£	£	£	£	£	£
Membership subscriptions	176,518	-	176,518	164,041	-	164,041
Annual conference fees	115,255	-	115,255	103,788	14,076	117,864
Other conference fees	-	-	-	5,793	-	5,793
Education services:						
Training course fees	15,827	-	15,827	20,253	-	20,253
Services	11,083	-	11,083	20,691	-	20,691
Total charitable activities	318,683	-	318,683	314,566	14,076	328,642

4 INCOME - OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Advertising	35,843	-	35,843	34,500	-	34,500
Sponsorship	42,590	-	42,590	37,857	-	37,857
Services	15,306	-	15,306	5,000	-	5,000
Total other trading activities	93,739	-	93,739	77,357	-	77,357

Sponsorship includes income is received for promotional services provided for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM).

5 INCOME – INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	6,945	-	6,945	9,330	-	9,330
Total investment income	6,945	-	6,945	9,330	-	9,330

6 EXPENDITURE - RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs (direct)	12,225	-	12,225	11,070	-	11,070
Support and indirect staff costs	6,650	-	6,650	13,514	-	13,514
Total Raising funds	18,875	-	18,875	24,584	-	24,584

Costs of raising funds represents staff time, associated support costs for identifying and applying for grant income and developing other income streams.

7 EXPENDITURE - CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
Membership support:	£	£	£	£	£	£
Freelance and consultants	3,627	-	3,627	17,883	405	18,288
Technical support and other	2,336	-	2,336	2,167	-	2,167
Bad debts & miscellaneous	- 6	- -	6	550	-	550
Staff costs (direct)	218,868	-	218,868	211,834	-	211,834
Support and indirect staff costs	119,049	-	119,049	113,648	-	113,648
Annual and other conferences:						
Hotel and venue hire	95,408	-	95,408	79,301	8,470	87,771
Technical support and other	10,224	-	10,224	32,730	4,523	37,253
Freelance and consultants	970	-	970	2,488	1,820	4,308
Staff costs (direct)	39,930	-	39,930	32,454	-	32,454
Support and indirect staff costs	21,719	-	21,719	25,958	-	25,958
Training and education:						
Freelance and consultants	43,777	-	43,777	45,937	-	45,937
Venue Hire	7,414	-	7,414	-	-	-
Bad debts & miscellaneous	-	-	-	1,316	-	1,316
Technical support and other	1,908	-	1,908	2,701	-	2,701
Staff costs (direct)	95,440	-	95,440	83,378	-	83,378
Support and indirect staff costs	51,913	-	51,913	69,618	-	69,618
Total Charitable activities	712,577	-	712,577	721,963	15,218	737,181

8 OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
Other trading activities:	£	£	£	£	£	£
Technical support and other	25,747	-	25,747	70	-	70
Corporation tax	6,529	-	6,529	-	-	-
Staff costs (direct)	26,281	-	26,281	15,301	-	15,301
Support and indirect staff costs	14,295	-	14,295	7,404	-	7,404
Total	72,852	-	72,852	22,775	-	22,775

9a SUPPORT COSTS – General management

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
General management:	£	£	£	£	£	£
IT & general office costs	26,572	-	26,572	19,422	-	19,422
Insurance	2,370	-	2,370	1,353	-	1,353
Consultancy & support fees	7,956	-	7,956	3,869	-	3,869
Travel and subsistence	18,274	-	18,274	14,808	-	14,808
Printing and advertising	4,356	-	4,356	1,544	-	1,544
Accountancy services	49,223	-	49,223	47,608	-	47,608
Staff costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staff training	5,690	-	5,690	6,464	-	6,464
Total General management	114,441	-	114,441	95,068	-	95,068

9b SUPPORT COSTS – Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
Governance:	£	£	£	£	£	£
Accounts preparation	3,562	-	3,562	3,392	-	3,392
Independent examination	3,080	-	3,080	2,800	-	2,800
Travel and meeting costs	5,619	-	5,619	7,674	-	7,674
Strategic development	14,662	-	14,662	40,777	-	40,777
Total Governance costs	26,923	-	26,923	54,643	-	54,643
Total support costs	141,364	-	141,364	149,711	-	149,711

Governance costs include staff costs for supporting the Trustee meetings for the strategic planning for the charity, the preparation of statutory accounts and independent examination fees.

10 ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	6,650	-	6,650	13,514	-	13,514
Charitable activities:						
Membership support	119,049	-	119,049	113,648	-	113,648
Annual and other conferences	21,719	-	21,719	25,958	-	25,958
Education services	51,913	-	51,913	69,618	-	69,618
Other expenditure	14,295	-	14,295	7,404	-	7,404
Total allocated support costs	213,626	-	213,626	230,143	-	230,143

Support costs are allocated to other activities in proportion to direct staff costs incurred by those activities.

11 EMPLOYEES

	Year ended 31-Mar 2026	Year ended 31-Mar 2025
The average number of employees during the year was:	No.	No.
Chief Executive	1	1
Office and administrative support	14	12
	15	13
The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year	13	10

12a STAFF COSTS

	Year ended 31-Mar 2026	Year ended 31-Mar 2025
Staff costs for the above employees:	£	£
Wages and salaries	413,102	393,484
National insurance	42,831	34,521
Pension contributions	9,073	8,778
	465,006	436,783

Pension contributions relate to payments made for members of staff in the NEST auto-enrolment scheme.

The number of higher paid employees was as follows:

Total emoluments (salary)	**Year ended 31-Mar 2026**	Year ended 31-Mar 2025
	No.	No.
£80,000 to £89,999	1	1

The Trustees consider that the Chief Executive represents the key management personnel for the Charity. The total remuneration (salary, Employer's National insurance costs and pension contributions) for the Chief Executive for the year was £83,646 (2025 - £80,929).

12b ALLOCATION OF STAFF COSTS BY ACTIVITY

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
Activities:	£	£	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	12,225	-	12,225	11,070	-	11,070
Membership support	218,868	-	218,868	211,834	-	211,834
Annual and other conferences	39,930	-	39,930	32,454	2316	34,770
Education services	95,440	-	95,440	83,378	-	83,378
Other trading activities	26,281	-	26,281	15,301	-	15,301
Support costs:						
General management	39,824	-	39,824	51,276	-	51,276
Governance	32,438	-	32,438	29,156	-	29,156
Total staff costs	465,006	-	465,006	434,467	2,316	436,783

Staff costs have been allocated to activities, including to support costs, based on the estimated time spent.

13 NET INCOME

	Year ended 31-Mar 2026	Year ended 31-Mar 2025
Net income is stated after charging:	£	£
Independent examiner's fee: - current year	3,080	2,800
Independent examiner's fee: - prior year	-	-

14 TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

During the year a total of £967.67 was paid to eight Trustees in reimbursement expenses. (2025 - £1,337).

15 Tangible Assets

	Office Equipment 2026	**Total 2026**
	£	£
Cost at the beginning of the year	2,969	2,969
Addition during the year	874	874
Disposed of during the year	-	-
Cost at the end of the year	3,843	3,843
Accumulated depreciation at the beginning of the year	320	320
Depreciation charge for the year	994	994
Accumulated depreciation at the end of the year	1,314	1,314
NBV at 31 March 2026	2,529	2,529
NBV at 31 March 2025	2,649	2,649

16 DEBTORS

	Year ended 31-Mar 2026	Year ended 31-Mar 2025
	£	£
Trade debtors	45,070	64,540
Other debtors:		
Prepayments	24,462	90,907
Accrued income	172	- 265
	69,704	155,182

17 CASH AT BANK AND AT HAND

	Year ended 31-Mar 2026	Year ended 31-Mar 2025
	£	£
Bank – current accounts	65,108	500
Bank – deposit accounts	317,228	320,194
Equal expenses cards	4,222	2,132
	386,558	322,826

18 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Note	Year ended 31-Mar 2026	Year ended 31-Mar 2025
		£	£
Other taxes and social security costs		20,061	- 827
Other creditors (see below)		12,895	21,551
Accruals & deferred income	19	71,584	86,996
Trade creditors		13,777	54,855
		118,317	162,575

Other Creditors breakdown

Monies held for regional groups of music service members

MusicHE	987	987
West Midlands	2,981	5,197
Eastern	4,538	4,538
North East	1,837	5,789
	10,343	16,511
PMLL liabilities for licence invoices raised	2,520	5,040
Provision for credit notes	32	
	12,895	21,551

19 ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME

	Year ended 31-Mar 2026	Year ended 31-Mar 2025
	£	£
Trade accruals	6,188	7,931
Total Accruals and creditors	6,188	7,931
Deferred income:		
Annual subscriptions	41,944	53,440
Training fees	3,660	25
Sponsorship and other funding	15,000	16,225
Services	4,792	9,375
Total Deferred income	65,396	79,065
Totals	71,584	86,996

Deferred Income

	Year ended 31-Mar 2026
	£
Deferred income at 1 April 2025	79,065
Income deferred in the year	71,584
Amounts released from previous years	-79,065
Deferred income at 31 March 2026	71,584

20 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2026**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Assets	2,529	-	2,529	2,649	-	2,649
Current assets	456,262	-	456,262	478,008	-	478,008
Current liabilities	-118,317	-	-118,317	-162,575	-	-162,575
Total funds	340,474	-	340,474	318,082	-	318,082

21 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1st April 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	**At 31st March 2026**
Unrestricted funds:	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	318,082	826,696	-804,304	-	340,474
Restricted income funds:					
Arts Council England	-	-	-	-	-
North West Conference	-	-	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds	318,082	826,696	-804,304	-	340,474

21 MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS (continued)

	At 1st April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	At 31st March 2025
Unrestricted funds:	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	285,536	801,867	-769,322	-	318,082
Restricted income funds:					
Arts Council England LDP	405	-	-405	-	-
North West Conference	737	14,076	-14,813	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	1,142	14,076	-15,218	-	-
Total Funds	286,678	815,943	-784,540	-	318,082

22 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Thirteen Trustees who served during the year; Peter Bolton, John Callister, Yogesh Dattani, Philip Flood, Janice Ford, Steven Greenall, Jennifer Henley, Sarah Lee, Clair McColl, Ciaran O'Donnell, Charlotte Payne, Gemma Price and Peter Smalley were employed during the year by Music Education Organisations or Industry Partners that paid membership fees, and paid for conference and/or training attendance. These fees were at standard, advertised 'arm's-length' rates.