



Action
Syria

ANNUAL REPORT

AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ending March 2026

Together, we're helping
Syrian communities
rebuild with
**HEALTH,
OPPORTUNITY
AND HOPE.**



OUR IMPACT

Over the past year, Action Syria has helped **2,359** Syrians.

We've worked alongside four local organisations to provide:

- + Education for **100 Syrian refugee children** in Lebanon.
- + Rehabilitated classrooms for **1,690 children** in Syria.
- + Support for **522 people with limb difference**, including fitting **11** prosthetics and **81** orthotics devices, and providing **1,216** physiotherapy sessions.
- + Salaries for **7** teachers, **8** medical staff and **11** support staff (including a social worker and a school guard).
- + Training for **21 teachers** in rural Damascus focused on safeguarding, psychosocial support and interactive teaching methods.



45% of those reached were women and girls. **81%** were children.

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Action Syria is the operating name of The Hands Up Foundation, Charity no. 1156491.

Trustees

Alexandra Lopoukhine (Chair)
Joe Roberts (Vice Chair, Treasurer)
George Butler
Mazen Gharibah
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Charity number

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A Message from our Board Chair

31 March 2026

Dear all,

It is a privilege to share Action Syria's 2025-2026 Annual Report with you. As I reflect on our work in 2025, the word that keeps coming back to me is **rebuilding**. I hope this report gives you a sense of what that has looked like in practice, and what it means for Action Syria's work ahead.

After 14 years of conflict and displacement, the fall of the Assad regime in December 2024 marked a moment that many of us had hoped for, but few had dared to expect. For the Syrian communities we support, it brought a renewed but fragile hope – that a more peaceful, inclusive and tolerant Syria could be rebuilt. But, as anyone who has watched this humanitarian crisis unfold will know, the process of rebuilding is complex and difficult. The road to recovery will require patience, courage, and consistent support that doesn't waver when the world's attention moves elsewhere.

Syria has now entered a fragile period of transition and rebuilding – but the needs on the ground remain urgent. Our promise has always been to stand with Syrian communities for as long as we are needed – staying the course when the headlines move on. In 2025, we have continued to work alongside our brilliant local partners in Syria and Lebanon to provide the support and aid communities need most.

This year, we expanded our work inside Syria, supporting two local organisations to renovate school classrooms in rural Damascus. In north-west Syria, we worked with Physicians Across Continents to provide life-changing prosthetics, and in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, we continued supporting Syrian refugee children to access the education they need, alongside our partner SAWA. Throughout each project, we have kept funding the medical, education and support staff who make these services possible every day – working with courage, resilience and dedication in extraordinarily difficult circumstances.

In 2025, we also welcomed a new Interim CEO, strengthened our communications capacity, and built new relationships with donors and supporters who share our long-term vision. As a Board, we continue to work with focus and care, listening carefully to those on the ground to ensure our support goes where it will have the deepest impact.

All of this work has only been possible because of our incredible community of supporters – who believe in the power of sustained solidarity, and who know that ordinary people, standing together, can make an extraordinary difference.

Thank you for continuing to stand with us – and most importantly, with Syrian communities. We couldn't do any of this without you.

With warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line and a period.

Alexandra Lopoukhine
Chair of the Board



TRUSTEES' REPORT



Trustees' Report

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended **31 March 2026**. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition (effective **1 January 2019**).

Objectives & Activities

Action Syria is a registered charity in England & Wales and **raises money and awareness for humanitarian relief in and around Syria**. The principal activities of Action Syria are to make sure Syrian communities have the medical care and education they need, every day and when emergencies strike. The charity focuses on the relief and assistance of victims of war, conflict, or natural disaster, through humanitarian assistance, particularly for people in Syria and surrounding countries.

A prosthetic being fitted in north-west Syria



Mission & Vision

For over a decade, we've been on an extraordinary journey which started at our kitchen table, with a series of supper clubs raising funds for our friends in Syria. What began as a response to the conflict in Syria has evolved into a powerful mission.

Today, we continue to take action, **working with local partners to make sure Syrian communities have the medical care and education they need, every day, and when emergencies strike.**

We envision a future in which Syrian people can build their lives with health, opportunity, and hope. Syrian communities are beginning to rebuild following the fall of the Assad regime in December 2024 - but, the road to recovery is long and the needs remain urgent. Access to education and quality healthcare will be essential to rebuilding a more peaceful future for all Syrians. That's why we're continuing to work with expert local partners - who know their communities best - to support community-led recovery and deliver aid where it's needed most. Together, we're filling critical gaps in healthcare and education, inside Syria and in neighbouring countries. As Syria enters a new chapter, our promise remains the same: to stand with Syrian communities for as long as we are needed.

Values

Loyal:

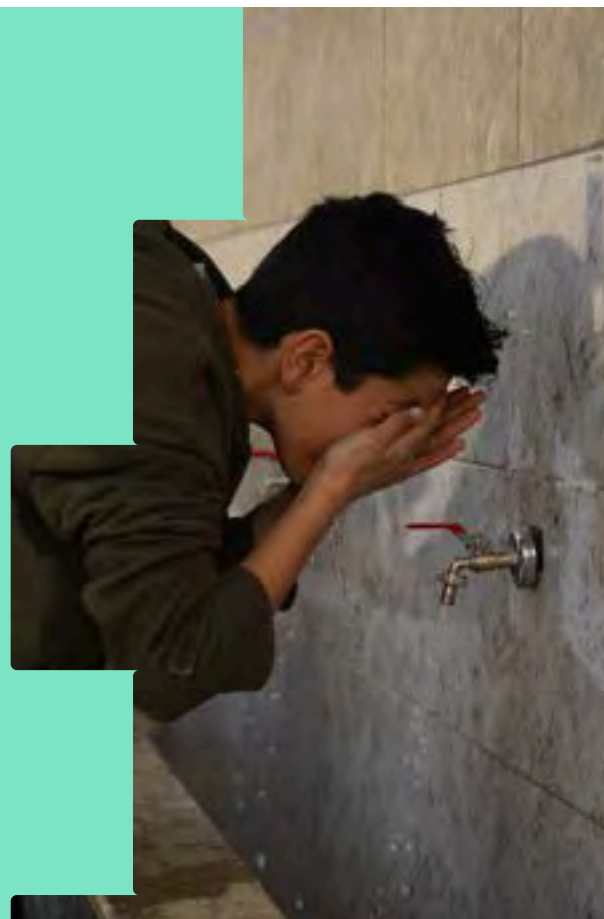
We are committed and consistent –
because we are here for as long as needed.

Straightforward:

We are upfront and open –
because we know clarity changes lives faster.

United:

We are inclusive and collaborative –
because we are stronger together.



OUR PROJECTS

Introduction

The fall of the Assad regime in December 2024 marked a significant moment for Syrian communities, bringing renewed hope after 14 years of conflict and displacement, and over 50 years of authoritarian rule. Now, more than a year on, **Syria is in a complex and fragile period of transition** – and while hope remains about the possibility of building a more democratic, inclusive and tolerant society for all Syrians, the needs on the ground are urgent.

16.7 million people in Syria, including 7.5 million children, still require humanitarian assistance [1]. 15.8 million people need urgent healthcare, yet only **37%** of primary health centres are fully functional [2]. Millions remain displaced – and many Syrian refugees in Lebanon who wish to return have no homes or jobs to go back to [3]. At the same time, over 300,000 people have crossed the border from Lebanon into Syria since March 2026 – the majority of those are Syrians, forced to flee again as conflict escalates in the region [4]. Many are arriving in communities that are only just beginning to rebuild and where rising costs for essentials, like food and fuel [5], mean that over **90%** of the population are living below the poverty line [6].

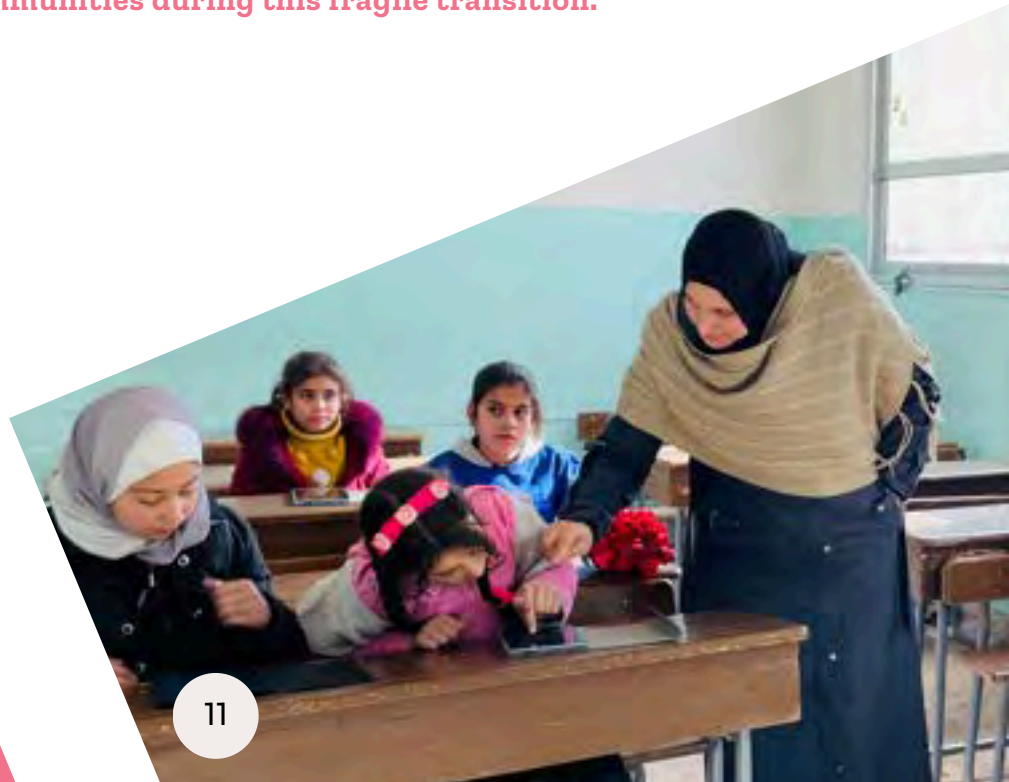
Communities who have already endured so much now need **sustained support to rebuild and shape their own futures**. Improving access to education and healthcare is a vital part of this – providing essential pathways to recovery. That's why we have continued to work with trusted local partners delivering the vital education and medical care that Syrian communities need. We work with local Syrian organisations whose staff we know well to ensure our funds are being channelled to areas of greatest need, as well as regularly reviewing our practices to ensure they are being used as efficiently as possible, and in line with Action Syria's objectives, as per the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

2025-2026 Project Highlights

Our greatest achievement is the support we provide to Syrian communities to make sure they can access the medical care and education they need. This year, we supported **2,404** Syrians and worked alongside **four** local organisations to help Syrian communities shape their own futures, beyond conflict and displacement. Most importantly, behind every number, project and statistic, are **individual lives that have been changed because of our generous community of supporters** - who continue to stand with Syrian communities through this critical period of rebuilding.

In Syria, a child who has grown up surrounded by conflict and displacement is learning in a safe, welcoming and child-friendly classroom for the first time. In the midst of increased tensions in the region, a Syrian refugee child in Lebanon is able to travel to and from school safely each day because of our school bus. In north-west Syria, a young woman who lost her leg during the conflict now has a prosthetic and is walking independently again. **This is what your support means.**

This year, we are also particularly proud to have been able to **expand our support inside Syria**. Working with two trusted local partners – Abjad Initiative for Education and MARS Organization – we supported the renovation of three schools in rural Damascus, helping improve learning environments and contribute to the restoration of vital education services for local communities. **This marked an important shift in how we support Syrian communities during this fragile transition.**



Key facts from the ground in 2025-26

At least **16.7 million** people, including **7.5 million** children, are in need of humanitarian aid [1]. **One third** of all housing in Syria is damaged or destroyed, meaning that many who wish to return do not have safe homes or adequate shelter [7].

Access to free healthcare and quality education are still critical needs:



- **Over 2 million** Syrian children are still out of school putting them at risk of child labour, child marriage, trafficking and recruitment by armed groups [8]
- Over **7,000** schools were damaged or destroyed during the conflict [8]



- Only **57%** of hospitals in Syria are fully functional, making it difficult for many to access to basic healthcare [9]

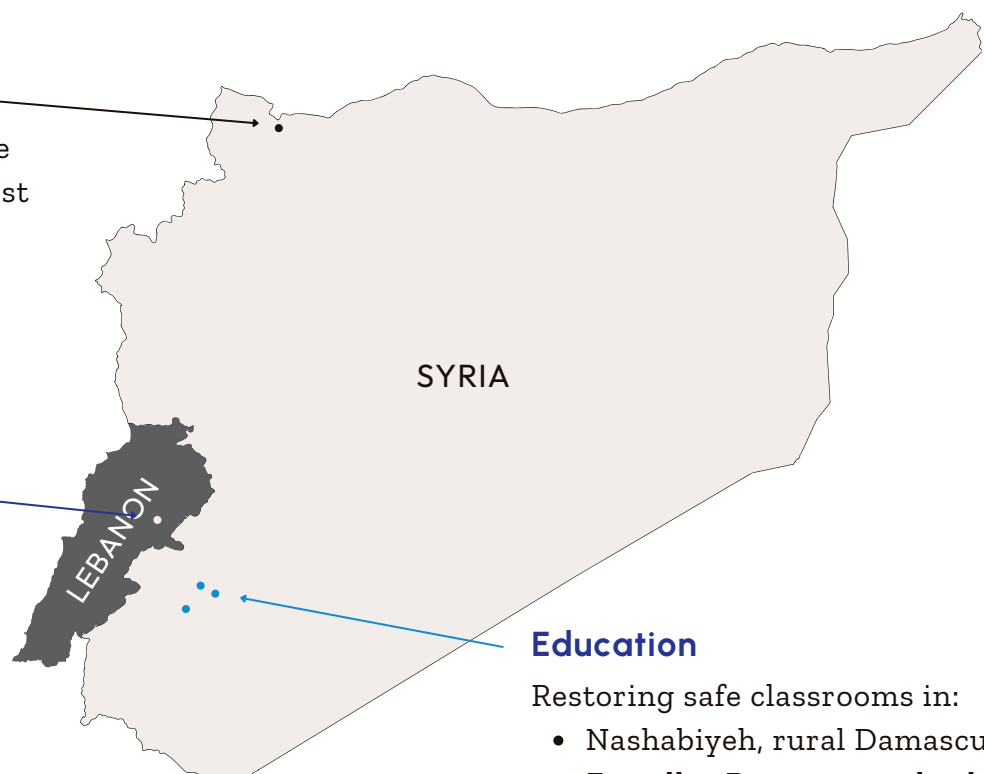
Where we worked

Health

Prosthetics Centre
in A'zaz, north-west
Syria

Education

SAWA School for
Syrian refugee
children in Lebanon's
Bekaa Valley



Education

Restoring safe classrooms in:

- Nashabiyeh, rural Damascus
- Zamalka, Damascus suburbs
- Daraya, rural Damascus

Rebuilding with health, opportunity and hope

Education has helped Laila build the confidence to shape her own future

"I wish the school day could last all day."

10-year-old Laila, and her family, were displaced to Lebanon during Syria's conflict. Now living in a refugee camp in the Bekaa Valley, Laila attends SAWA School – a school serving displaced Syrian children with few other options. There she has received the **teaching, psychosocial support and encouragement from her teachers to enable her to thrive.**



Access to healthcare means Ahmad can walk for the first time

In north-west Syria, 4-year-old Ahmad, who has cerebral palsy, was able to receive **physiotherapy** and **two life-changing orthotic devices** at the Hope Step Centre. Thanks to the work of our local partners, PAC, and our generous supporters, Ahmad was able to receive this care for free, at the only centre of its kind in A'zaz. Today, **Ahmad is walking and balancing independently for the first time** - and gaining confidence each day.





The right healthcare helped Fatima rebuild her life after conflict

Fatima was injured during Syria's 14-year conflict, resulting in her right leg being amputated. **Difficulty accessing essential medical care slowed her recovery** - until she came to the Hope Step Centre. Here, Fatima received a **life-changing prosthetic**, alongside physical rehabilitation. Now, using a walker for support, Fatima is **walking for the first time since her injury**, and getting back to her day-to-day activities with more independence.



When school felt safe again, Khaled dared to dream of rebuilding Syria

"I want to become an engineer so I can help rebuild my country, Syria."

In rural Damascus, Khaled was frequently missing school, unmotivated by the cold, dark, and unsafe classrooms - which had been severely damaged during the conflict. After his school was restored, **he returned eager to learn**, waking up early to put on his uniform – and dreaming of becoming an engineer. **A safe classroom helped restore his confidence and ambition.**

Prosthetics



A'zaz, north-west Syria – Physicians Across Continents (PAC)

In Syria, at least **86,000** people have conflict-related injuries which have led to amputations. In reality, this number is likely to be much higher. At the same time, **access to basic healthcare across Syria is scarce** and in communities like A'zaz, close to the Syrian-Turkish border, affordable healthcare options are extremely limited. This year, we worked with our partner, PAC, to address this critical need, **providing prosthetics, orthotics, and physiotherapy to those who need it** at the Hope Step Centre. Action Syria funded this project from September 2022 until **May 2025**. During this time, the centre was the only prosthetics service of its kind providing humanitarian services for free in A'zaz. We are not currently funding this programme — not because the need has gone, but because the funds aren't there.

Between March-May 2025, the team of **15** staff at the Hope Step Centre supported **522** patients, providing prosthetics for upper and lower limb amputations, orthotics (e.g. support brace/splint), maintenance for both, as well as physiotherapy sessions. In numbers, a total of **11** prosthetics and **81** orthotics were provided alongside **1,216** physio sessions for **256** patients and **176** doctor's consultations.

Alongside funding staff salaries and clinic costs, we provided the physiotherapy patients needed to help them adapt to life with their new prosthetic or orthotic. These prosthetics are key to unlocking a life of greater independence, helping people do the activities they have previously been unable to do, whether that's writing or riding a bike. The ability to do these things again can be **truly transformational**.



PEOPLE WE'VE SUPPORTED

Qamar's Story, Prosthetics, Syria

9-year-old Qamar, who lives in north-west Syria, was born with a limb difference affecting her right leg. Two years ago, she visited the Hope Step Centre and was fitted with a customised prosthetic limb for the first time – enabling her to walk and play independently.

Since then, Qamar has received regular check-ups and maintenance as needed. For children, prosthetics often need to be adjusted or replaced as they grow. In May 2025, when Qamar came in for a routine check-up, her prosthetic was too tight – causing her pain and difficulty walking. New measurements were taken and the Hope Step Centre provided a new, comfortable, well-fitting prosthetic, **enabling Qamar to walk, play and go to school with confidence again.** Qamar was able to receive not just one, but the two prosthetic limbs that she needed for free, because of the generosity of our supporters who have made these services accessible.

"When Qamar first got her prosthetic leg, I **remember the joy on her face.** She could walk like other children, play, and even go to school with more confidence. The staff have always been supportive and kind. This recent visit was no different — they noticed she was struggling and quickly made her a new leg. **Now, she's walking comfortably again, without crutches.**"
— Qamar's mother





Education for Syrian Refugees

Bekaa Valley, Lebanon – SAWA for Development and Aid

For displaced Syrian children living in Lebanon, education can **restore stability, protect childhoods, and rebuild hope**. But for many Syrian refugee children, learning in a safe, supportive environment remains out of reach. **Only 50% of Syrian school-age children in Lebanon attend school** [10], with transport costs, school books, and a lack of paperwork among the key barriers. This leaves many children vulnerable to child labour and child marriage, limiting their future opportunities.

In response, we have continued our long-term partnership with SAWA for Development and Aid to provide a school for **100 Syrian refugee children in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley**. Here, children arrive from neighbouring camps to learn Arabic, English, science and maths, alongside Life Skills and PE classes. Many of our students do not know life outside the refugee camps and would have no access to education without SAWA School. Most of their **seven** teachers are from the same community and have lived through similar experiences. Action Syria funds the salaries of these teachers plus four support staff, providing a stable income that enables them to support their own families.

The staff at SAWA School work hard to create a safe, supportive learning environment, helping students build the **skills and confidence they need to shape their own futures**, beyond conflict and displacement. Through child-centred teaching, play and tailored psychosocial support, the school is providing a space where Syrian refugee children can learn and grow – just like any other children. This year, as conflict escalated across the region, including in southern Lebanon, the school's activities were temporarily suspended. We are grateful that the school's staff, students and their families remained safe, and that learning resumed quickly. But, the disruption is a reminder of how precarious life remains for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon, and how **vital learning environments like SAWA School are to their futures**.

PEOPLE WE'VE SUPPORTED

Mansour's Story, Education, Lebanon

When 11-year-old Mansour came to SAWA School at the start of this academic year, he was often tired, distracted and struggling to concentrate. Over time, this was impacting his participation and engagement in the school's activities, both inside and outside the classroom. Recognising that he needed some extra support, **Mansour's teachers worked alongside the school social worker** to help him build a daily schedule, reduce his screen time and develop healthy habits to improve his concentration.

The change in Mansour has been remarkable. Now, with the encouragement and support of his teachers, Mansour is engaged and participating in lessons, and taking responsibility for managing his energy and concentration throughout the day. The right support, provided by SAWA School, has helped Mansour to enjoy learning again and to develop essential life skills that will help him thrive beyond the classroom.

Mansour's story stands as a powerful example of how a supportive education environment can help children overcome their challenges. For Mansour and his classmates, SAWA School provides more than academic learning – it restores routine, supports emotional wellbeing, and helps children rebuild confidence after years of disruption.



School restoration in Zamalka, Syria

Zamalka, rural Damascus – Abjad Initiative for Education



14 years of conflict have left Syria's education system in ruins. At least 7000 schools have been damaged or destroyed, classrooms are overcrowded and many lack basic infrastructure, like electricity and toilets [8]. Over **2 million children** are still out of school, unable to access the education they need [8]. As Syrian communities look towards the future, restoring access to safe learning spaces for children remains a critical need.

In Zamalka, rural Damascus, years of fighting, siege and neglect had left Zamalka Primary School in disrepair, contributing to high drop-out rates. Classrooms were damaged, overcrowded and unsafe for learning, and the school's basic infrastructure – like toilets, water and electricity – was unusable or missing.

Working in partnership with Abjad Initiative for Education, **Action Syria supported the full rehabilitation of Zamalka Primary School.** Electricity was restored, running water and toilets repaired. Then doors, windows and roofs were fixed and insulated, new desks were installed and classrooms were repainted. Now, the school is safe, inclusive, child-friendly and accessible for children with disabilities – and is accommodating **900 students** in a healthier and more supportive environment.

But more than repairing walls and fixing classrooms, this project has **created lasting change for children, teachers and the wider community in Zamalka.** Since the rehabilitation was completed, our local partner Abjad Initiative have trained **21 teachers** in interactive and inclusive teaching, classroom management, and psychosocial support. **50 parents** have also attended awareness sessions, making the community an active partner in sustaining change. Through this partnership, the result is not only a renovated school, where children can safely grow and learn, but also **more sustainable education opportunities in Zamalka.**

For teachers, parents and children alike, the school now represents hope, pride, and the promise of a better future.

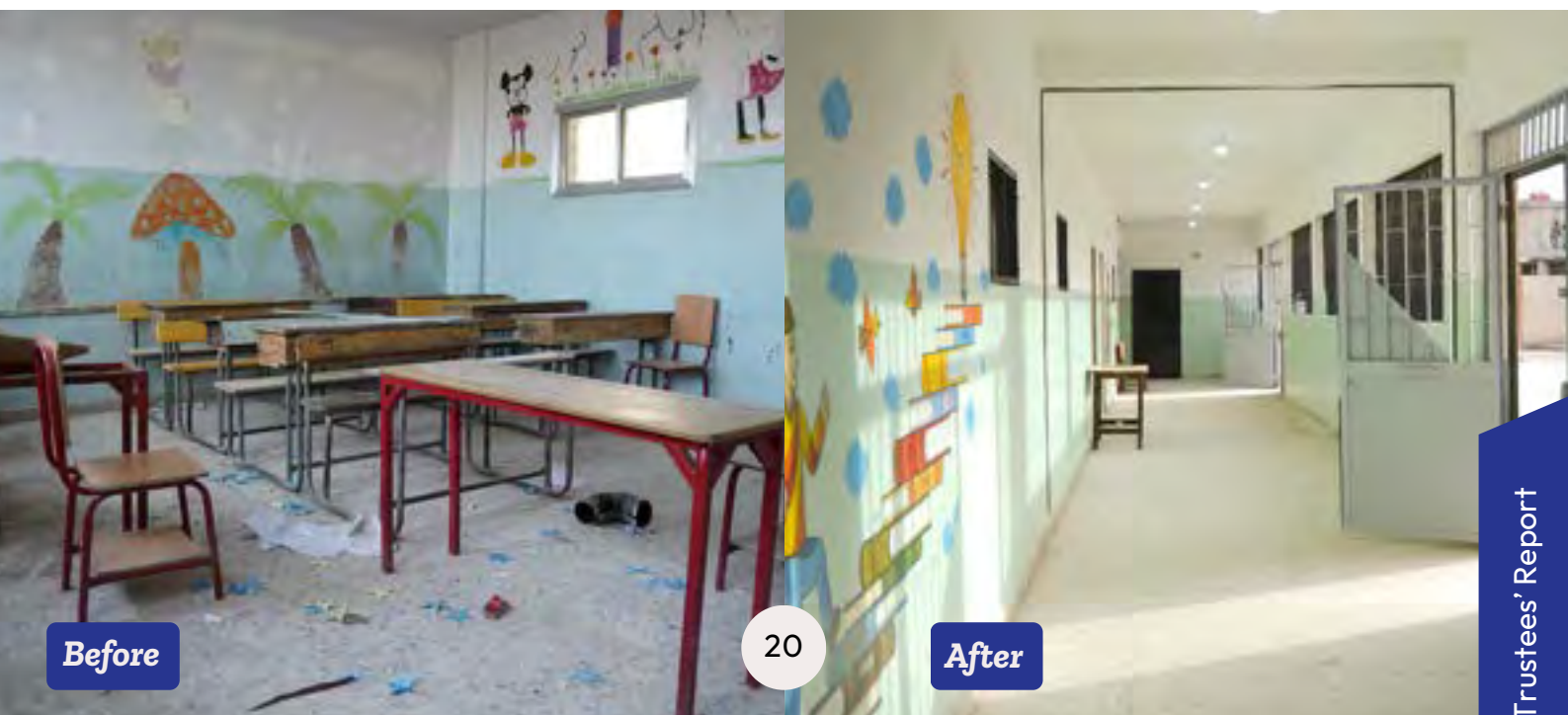
Restoring classrooms in Nashabiyeh, Syria

Nashabiyeh, rural Damascus – Abjad Initiative for Education

This year, we also worked with Abjad Initiative to restore access to learning for **449 students** at Al-Nashabiyeh Mixed School, in rural Damascus. Before the rehabilitation works began, Al-Nashabiyeh School was in poor condition – the result of years of conflict and neglect. Classrooms were badly damaged and basic facilities – like water and toilets -- needed urgent repairs. This was contributing to high drop out rates, particularly among girls and younger students.

In partnership with Abjad Initiative, Action Syria supported the **full restoration of Al-Nashabiyeh Mixed School**, helping 449 students return to safe classrooms. This included restoring **14 classrooms**, 6 offices, and basic sanitation facilities, as well as installing roof insulation, solar panels and an access ramp to improve accessibility for students with disabilities. We are particularly proud that **enrollment at the school increased after the completion of the project**, highlighting that safe classrooms are essential for helping Syrian children get back to school after years of disruption.

For children in communities like Nashabiyeh, **every classroom restored, toilet block upgraded and play area renewed is a step towards a brighter future** – helping them access the education and support they need to learn, thrive and shape their own futures.



Before

20

After

PEOPLE WE'VE SUPPORTED

Rama's Story, Education, Syria

Before the school rehabilitation in Al-Nashabiyeh, 12-year-old Rama described her school as “a place that caused more stress than hope.” The poor conditions of the classrooms negatively impacted her sense of safety and belonging, as well as her academic performance.

For Rama, the school rehabilitation – supported by Action Syria – **transformed her learning experience.**

“When I entered the school after the rehabilitation, it felt like a completely new place.”

— Rama, age 12



Classrooms were restored, lighting improved, sanitation facilities fixed and the school yard made safe. Now, Rama is learning in a **safe** and **stable** environment, and her mother says Rama is going to school with **renewed motivation and excitement about the future.**



One of the classrooms at Al-Nashabiyeh Primary School after rehabilitation.

Restoring learning in Daraya, Syria

Daraya, Syria – MARS Organization



More than just fixing classrooms and repairing walls, restoring access to education is about equipping children to shape their own futures – and, rebuilding confidence that goes far beyond the classroom.

For the students at Al-Ghouta Al-Gharbiya Boys School, **poor learning conditions were negatively impacting students' confidence and motivation for learning**. Years of conflict in Daraya had severely damaged classrooms, making them unsafe for learning. Cracked walls, broken furniture and poor insulation made it difficult for students to concentrate, particularly during Syria's harsh winter.

But this year, things changed at the school. Working with our local partner, MARS Organization, Action Syria rehabilitated four of the school's classrooms, **creating safe, comfortable and welcoming spaces for students** whose education has been repeatedly disrupted by conflict. From the beginning, **students were actively involved**, playing a vital role in shaping the project's priorities and sharing what they wanted to change in their classrooms. This helped make sure the improvements reflected what students actually needed, and gave them a stronger sense of ownership over their classrooms.

The work included repainting classrooms, fixing desks and windows, and making the spaces clean, safe and ready for learning. Alongside standard classrooms, the project included an interactive classroom and a laboratory. Today, the school is teaching more children than originally expected – **341 students in total**. After the work was finished, teachers noticed **clear improvements in student behaviour and engagement**, with students taking better care of their classrooms and joining in lessons with more confidence.

Now, for the students, teachers and community alike, the school is strengthening a sense of belonging, and **restoring hope that education is the foundation for building a brighter future in Daraya**.

PEOPLE WE'VE SUPPORTED

Ahmad's Story, Education, Syria

16-year-old Ahmad is a student at Al-Ghouta Al-Gharbiya Boys School in Daraya. For years, he sat in a damaged classroom that made learning feel impossible. But things changed as a result of the school rehabilitation project.

During the project, Ahmad was asked for his opinion and **had a real say in what changed at his school** – and for a young person who'd grown up surrounded by conflict and displacement, that moment mattered. Being involved in decisions about the classroom reminded Ahmad of the role he plays in **shaping his own future**. Since the improvements were completed, he feels more confident taking part in lessons and more motivated to attend school each day.

Watch Ahmad talking about his experience of the school rehabilitation in Daraya.



[Click here to watch.](#)



"This project gave us back the feeling that we are not forgotten and that **our future still matters**, despite everything we have been through."

- Ahmad, 16-years-old



FUNDRAISING

This year, we have been able to diversify our fundraising income and grow our fundraising initiatives.

We re-introduced challenge events and supper clubs, and launched the **Action Syria Lottery** – a fun and easy way for players to support our vital work, while having the chance to win £25,000. Our partnership with **Abel & Cole** continued, whose brilliant support with *MarmalAid* raises awareness of our work to their community of customers. Thanks to the support of theatres in Nottingham, Guildford and Salisbury, we also raised funds during the national tour of *The Beekeeper of Aleppo*.

As Syrian communities begin to rebuild, the humanitarian needs remain urgent – and fundraising is more important than ever to be able to provide consistent support for lasting recovery. **We can't thank you enough** for taking action and standing with Syrian communities at this critical moment. You've run half marathons, sung at Christmas lunches, shown solidarity at our carol service, given your time to volunteer with us, and simply donated. Your passion and commitment to changing lives for the better means so much to us and the communities we support.

We're particularly thankful to **The Edenbeg Charitable Trust** and the **CHK Foundation** for their generous support and belief in our mission over the last year.



Our co-founder George Butler chairing an expert panel at our 'Syria in Focus' event, in September 2025.

Fundraising Campaigns and Initiatives

Action Syria Carols

(Previously Singing For Syrians)

Our annual carol service returned once again to St Bartholomew the Great in London, gathering 500 supporters for an evening of music and solidarity with Syrian communities.

Action Syria ambassador **Iain Burnside** hosted the evening of readings from wonderful guests - including **Alex Jennings**, **Kholoud Helmi** and ambassador **Romilly Weeks** - as well as stunning musical performances from qanun player, **Maya Youssef**, and pianist, **Poppy Ackroyd**. Alex's reading of 'First Visit to Damascus by Train 1928' – a beautiful portrayal of Syria as it was before the conflict – served as a poignant reminder of both the renewed hope of Syrians, and the uncertainty surrounding the road to recovery.

Our sincere thanks to our sponsors **Pooky**, **Truefitt & Hill**, and **London Speaker Bureau**, for making the event possible, to our volunteers and to every person who sang with us, donated, and joined their voice in support of Syrian communities whether in person or online. Together, we raised over **£85,000** from the event and match funding campaign – allowing us to step up our community-led work and take action to support Syrians as they rebuild.

Action Syria Recipes

(Previously Syrian Kitchen Club)

We've had a fantastic year of sharing Middle Eastern recipes through Action Syria Recipes. Our wonderful chef friends – both new and longstanding – have shared brilliant contributions, including creative and engaging content with their own communities too.

From **Anissa Helou's** authentic Syrian borma, to **Eleanor Wilkinson's** take on Chickpea Fatteh, to **Chloe Hood's** Middle Eastern-inspired Baklava Brown Butter Cookies, to **Middle Eats'** Ka'ak Osrooni. We're extremely proud to share this aspect of the region's rich culture – especially in aid of our vital mission.

Thank you to our subscribers for cooking, baking or sharing a dish, all in support of our work. We are also grateful to have partnered with **Borough Kitchen Cook School** to offer one lucky subscriber a gift voucher to attend a class to perfect their cooking skills!

Action Syria Suppers

(Previously Syrian Supper Club)

We're grateful to our newest ambassador, **Imad Al Arnab**, for hosting an iftar supper during Ramadan at **Aram** in Somerset House, in support of Action Syria. Guests enjoyed a wonderful evening of community, warmth and incredibly delicious Syrian sharing plates.

Iftar supper with Action Syria ambassador Imad Al Arnab, February 2026



Community Fundraising

Our community of supporters have shown up for Syrian communities in extraordinary ways this year. Workplaces, schools, churches – all came together to fundraise, taking action for Syrian communities.

One incredible runner raised **£735** for Action Syria in May 2025 by completing the Great Birmingham **Half Marathon**. At the beginning of 2026, we launched our **'2,026km for 2026'** campaign – a collective target to inspire supporters to take on a challenge in support of Action Syria. From Ultra Challenges to seasonal challenges on offer – we've been inspired seeing our community get involved and look forward to reporting on this further in our next Annual Report.



BBC Radio 4 Appeal

Action Syria's BBC Radio 4 Appeal, presented by actor **Toby Jones**, aired on 8th March 2026. The appeal spotlighted the story of eleven-year-old Limar, a student in rural Damascus, who is now learning in a safe and supportive classroom after years of disruption, since Action Syria helped to restore her school.

We are thrilled that the appeal raised an incredible **£12,164.57**. Thank you to everyone across the country who listened and donated – the kindness of BBC Radio 4 listeners will enable us to help more Syrian children like Limar to access safe learning spaces. A special thanks to Toby for wonderfully sharing Limar's inspiring story.



Financial Review

The results for the year are shown on page 39 and onwards.

We generated income of **£352,783** and incurred expenditure of **£402,539**.

Reserves Policy

Action Syria ended the year with **£63,346** in reserves, **£63,053** of which is unrestricted.

The trustees aim to hold reserves of £90,000, equivalent to approximately four months of expenditure. This level is intended to protect the charity against volatility in fundraising income, so that it can continue to meet its running costs and, importantly, provide stable and predictable support to its programmes, including the ability to make grants and enter into longer-term commitments with partners. At year end, reserves stood at £63,053, below this target. Since then, fundraising in the first quarter of the new financial year has exceeded expectations and reserves have moved closer to the target level. The trustees therefore consider that the charity is on a positive trajectory and expect to end the financial year 2027 above policy minimum.

The trustees monitor the charity's financial position through a comprehensive quarterly review and reforecast of income, expenditure and commitments, with new commitments made in line with available resources. This allows timely action to be taken if required.

Plans for Future Periods

The fall of the Assad regime in December 2024, ending over 50 years of authoritarian rule, marked a significant turning point for Syrian communities. Syria is now in a complex and fragile period of transition. **The road to recovery is long and uncertain, and the needs remain urgent.** As the context on the ground continues to change and Syrians begin to rebuild, large-scale recovery efforts will reach many Syrian communities - but not all. Our commitment remains the same: **to stand with Syrian communities for as long as we are needed** - working with our Syrian partners and friends in civil society to provide support wherever it is required most.

The past year marked an important transition for Action Syria as we sought to **expand our support to Syrian communities that we had previously been unable to reach.** Looking ahead, we're aiming to further strengthen our presence inside Syria while maintaining our longstanding commitment to supporting the education of displaced Syrian children in Lebanon.

The next phase of our strategy will focus on working with a diverse range of trusted local partners through small and medium-sized grants. This flexible partnership model will enable us to reach additional communities, respond to locally identified needs, and support impactful health and education initiatives. Guided by neutrality, inclusivity, and safety, and supported by a sustainable funding strategy, we hope to contribute to rebuilding essential services, strengthening local capacity, and supporting Syrian communities as they move towards recovery.

We are uniquely placed to act as a bridge between donors who wish to support Syrians and brilliant organisations operating on the ground. We are proud that donors can give with confidence, knowing their funds will make a positive difference to thousands of Syrians each year. We look forward to continuing to work with our supporters and partners to make this happen.

Plans for Future Periods: Programming Strategy

As Syrian communities begin to look towards the future, we continue to **take our lead from our trusted local partners**, who know the needs of their communities best. This year, we conducted consultations and sector-specific webinars, gaining insights from local experts and civil society organisations who are working on the ground, about the most pressing issues inside Syria. Their input has shaped our **priority areas** for education and health going forwards.



Education priorities:

Going forward, the key areas we will focus on are:

- Ongoing support for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon
- Mental health support for students and teachers
- Inclusive education for children with disabilities
- Integrated school rehabilitation and support services
- Teacher training and professional development
- Civic education, citizenship skills, peacebuilding and vocational learning
- Digital learning and 21st century skills



Health priorities:

Based on community needs and partner expertise, we aim to focus on:

- Strengthening public health services and access to quality care
- Mental health services, especially for women and young people
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Disability and rehabilitation support
- Assistance for vulnerable groups and specialised care (for example, children with cancer, or abandoned children)

Rebuilding Syria will require collaboration and creativity, and we are committed to being part of that process for as long as we are needed.

Structure, Governance & Management

Action Syria (operating name of The Hands Up Foundation) is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation ('CIO'), number 1156491, and is governed by its constitution. Its only voting members are the trustees who set the strategy of the organisation, while the executive manages the day to day.

New appointments to the Board of Trustees are recruited for externally and anyone willing to act as a trustee, who would be eligible under the constitution, may be appointed by the trustees. Apart from the first charity trustees, new trustees are appointed for a three-year term and may serve for a maximum of three consecutive terms. New trustees are issued with a copy of: The Constitution, our latest Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, and our Policies. Remuneration for employees is benchmarked against similar positions within the charity sector in the UK. The trustees make a final decision on remuneration based on the year's budget and the role of the employee.

Action Syria works with partner organisations (other UK and internationally registered charities) operating in the relief of victims of war, conflict or natural disaster, in particular by the provision of medical aid, food, access to water and sanitation and other humanitarian assistance. All partner organisations go through Action Syria's due diligence process before we work with them. Such procedures are considered vital by the trustees given the high-risk environment presented by Syria for the delivery of aid.



Alex Jennings reading '*First Visit to Damascus by Train 1928*' at Action Syria Carols 2025 in London.

Statement of Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Under charity law, the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the excess of expenditure over income for that year. 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 Charities SORP;
- Make judgements 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 charity will continue its activities.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the relevant legislation. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In addition, the trustees confirm that they are happy that the content of the annual review in pages **1** to **34** of this document meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the **Charities Act 2011** and the **Charities SORP (FRS 102)***.

This report was approved and authorized for issue by the Board of Trustees on **4 September 2026** and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AL', followed by a horizontal line and a period.

Alexandra Lopoukhine, Chair of Trustees

*Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland second edition effective from 1 January 2019.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT



Independent Examiner's Report to the Board of Trustees of Action Syria Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Action Syria (charity number **1156491**) for the year ended **31 March 2026** set out on pages **39 to 53**.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The CIO's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the **Charities Act 2011** (the Charities Act). The CIO's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under **section 144** of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is My Responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under **section 145** of the Charities Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under **section 145(s)(b)** of the Charities Act;
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the CIO's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the CIO'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 CIO and the CIO's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the CIO and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the CIO'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 a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & 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:

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by **section 130** of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 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.

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.

B Permal

Bianca Permal FCA

For and on behalf of **Dux Advisory Limited**

Kennel Club House

Gatehouse Way

Aylesbury

Buckinghamshire

HP19 8DB

Date: 9 October 2026



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Income from:					
Donations & legacies	2	306,080	13,405	319,485	347,435
Other trading activities	3	32,828	385	33,213	33,510
Investments*		85	-	85	381
Total income		338,993	13,790	352,783	381,326
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4 & 5	196,864	-	196,864	115,743
Charitable activities	4 & 6	192,178	13,497	205,675	378,887
Total expenditure		389,042	13,497	402,539	494,630
Net income/(expenditure)		(50,049)	293	(49,756)	(113,304)
Transfer between funds	12	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(50,049)	293	(49,756)	(113,304)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	12 & 13	113,102	-	113,102	226,406
Total funds carried forward	12 & 13	63,053	293	63,346	113,102

*All income from investments was unrestricted as to use in the current and prior year.

The notes on pages 43 to 53 form part of the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2026

	Notes	Total funds 31 Mar 2026		Total funds 31 Mar 2025	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:					
Tangible fixed assets	8		-		32
Current assets:					
Debtors	9	6,038		6,147	
Cash at bank and in hand		81,492		161,808	
		<u>87,530</u>		<u>167,955</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(24,184)		(54,885)	
Net current assets			<u>63,346</u>		<u>113,070</u>
Net assets			<u><u>63,346</u></u>		<u><u>113,102</u></u>
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	12 & 13		293		-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	12 & 13	63,053		113,102	
		<u>63,053</u>		<u>113,102</u>	
Total funds of the charity			<u><u>63,346</u></u>		<u><u>113,102</u></u>

The notes on pages 43 to 53 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 4 September 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Alexandra Lopoukhine

Chair of Trustees

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Year ended 31 Mar 2026	Year ended 31 Mar 2025
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income/(expenditure) for period (as per SOFA)	(49,756)	(113,304)
Adjustments for:		
Interest received	(85)	(381)
Depreciation	32	173
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	109	(1,575)
(Increase)/decrease in rent deposit & other debtors	-	(250)
(Increase)/decrease in accrued income	-	10,750
Increase/(decrease) in trade creditors	14	(727)
Increase/(decrease) in grants payable to organisations	(31,128)	(32,784)
Increase/(decrease) in accruals	174	156
Increase/(decrease) in salary control accounts	239	441
	(30,645)	(24,197)
Net cash used in operating activities	(80,401)	(137,501)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Interest received	85	381
Net cash used in investing activities	85	381
Net cash used in financing activities	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in period	(80,316)	(137,120)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	161,808	298,928
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	81,492	161,808

Cash and cash equivalents:

	Year ended 31 Mar 2026	Year ended 31 Mar 2025
	£	£
Cash in hand	81,492	161,808
	81,492	161,808

The notes on pages 43 to 53 form part of the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and relevant charity legislation.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Account and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved early adoption of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has been withdrawn. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 March 2026, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2026 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. Whilst, the trustees aim to hold reserves of £90,000 to cover any administrative costs in the short term, and whilst the year end reserves of £63,053 are below this, the reserves have increased since year end. In addition, future grants are only committed when there are sufficient funds available, and the Trustees have been a comprehensive quarterly financial monitoring and reforecasting process that allows additional mitigating action to be taken if required.

Legal status

The Hands Up Foundation is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity. The registered address is The Rich Mix Centre, 35-47 Bethnal Green Road, London, E1 6LA.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for specific purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 12 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

Legacies are recognised in the statement of financial activities when there is entitlement, adequate probability and reliability of receipt and their value can be accurately measured. For both pecuniary and residuary legacies this is when probate has been granted and a reasonable estimate calculated for this income.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future year or event, in which case it is deferred.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Grants to partners are recognised as expenditure when there is a legal or constructive obligation to make the grant. This is usually on receipt of the monthly report from the relevant partner organisation.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to direct costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 4 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on a straight-line basis. The useful life used is:

Computer equipment	3 years
--------------------	---------

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors 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.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

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.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Foreign currencies

Foreign currency balances have been translated at the exchange rate ruling at the Balance Sheet date.

Income and expenditure transactions have been translated at the prevailing rate at the time of the transaction.

Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases have been charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year to which the cost relates.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Donations	176,413	905	177,318
Grants	129,667	12,500	142,167
	306,080	13,405	319,485

	<i>Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>	<i>Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>
Donations	154,438	8,747	163,185
Legacies	20,000	-	20,000
Grants	116,250	48,000	164,250
	290,688	56,747	347,435

3. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Fundraising events	32,828	385	33,213
	32,828	385	33,213

	<i>Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>	<i>Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>
Fundraising events	33,510	-	33,510
	33,510	-	33,510

4. Total expenditure

	Grants to partners Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Other direct costs Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Direct staff costs Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Support costs Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total costs Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Raising funds	-	17,180	126,010	53,674	196,864
Charitable activities	94,016	919	54,663	56,077	205,675
	94,016	18,099	180,673	109,751	402,539

	Grants to partners Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Other direct costs Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Direct staff costs Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Support costs Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Total costs Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Raising funds	-	16,724	67,462	31,557	115,743
Charitable activities	201,997	10,525	63,061	103,304	378,887
	201,997	27,249	130,523	134,861	494,630

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct costs allocated to those activities.

An analysis of the expenditure on raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

Support costs consist of the following:

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

A full list of grants made in the year is available from the registered office address on request.

	Total costs Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total costs Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Indirect staff costs	61,924	48,520
Premises	14,280	13,333
Administrative costs	26,852	53,516
Governance costs	6,695	19,492
	109,751	134,861

4. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Governance costs consists of the following:

	Total costs	<i>Total costs</i>
	Year ended	<i>Year ended</i>
	31 Mar 2026	<i>31 Mar 2025</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Independent examination	2,850	<i>2,706</i>
Insurance	3,845	<i>2,386</i>
Recruitment costs for new chair	-	<i>14,400</i>
	6,695	<i>19,492</i>

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
	31 Mar 2026	31 Mar 2026	31 Mar 2026
	£	£	£
Other direct costs	17,180	-	17,180
Staff costs	126,010	-	126,010
Support costs	53,674	-	53,674
	196,864	-	196,864

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total Funds</i>
	<i>Year ended</i>	<i>Year ended</i>	<i>Year ended</i>
	<i>31 Mar 2025</i>	<i>31 Mar 2025</i>	<i>31 Mar 2025</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Other direct costs	<i>16,724</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>16,724</i>
Staff costs	<i>67,462</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>67,462</i>
Support costs	<i>31,557</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>31,557</i>
	<i>115,743</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>115,743</i>

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Grants to organisations	80,519	13,497	94,016
Other direct costs	919	-	919
Staff costs	54,663	-	54,663
Support costs	56,077	-	56,077
	192,178	13,497	205,675

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Grants to organisations	145,250	56,747	201,997
Other direct costs	10,525	-	10,525
Staff costs	63,061	-	63,061
Support costs	103,304	-	103,304
	322,140	56,747	378,887

7. Staff numbers and costs

	Total costs Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total costs Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Gross salaries	217,438	163,544
Employer's NIC	17,975	10,928
Employer's pension	7,184	4,571
	242,597	179,043

The average headcount during the year was 6 persons (2025: 5 persons).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2025: NIL).

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was £77,217 (2025: £62,498).

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2025	1,780	1,780
At 31 March 2026	1,780	1,780
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2025	1,748	1,748
Charge for year	32	32
At 31 March 2026	1,780	1,780
Net book value		
At 1 April 2025	32	32
At 31 March 2026	-	-

9. Debtors

	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Prepayments	4,107	4,216
Rent deposit and other debtors	1,931	1,931
	6,038	6,147

10. Creditors – amounts falling due within one year

	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Trade creditors	1,559	1,545
Grants payable to organisations	16,285	47,413
Accruals	4,860	4,686
Pension control account	1,480	1,241
	24,184	54,885

11. Grants payable

	Total funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	<i>Total funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>	<i>Total funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>
Brought forward on 1 April 2025		47,413		80,197
Grants awarded in period	94,016		201,997	
Net grants awarded		94,016		201,997
Paid in year		(123,931)		(234,928)
Exchange movement on non-GBP grants		(1,213)		147
Carried forward on 31 March 2026		16,285		47,413

Grants payable are due within the following time frames:

	Total funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	<i>Total funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>
Payable in less than one year	16,285	47,413
	16,285	47,413

12. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Income for the period Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Expenditure in the period Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Transfer between funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Balance carried forward Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Unrestricted funds	113,102	338,993	(389,042)	-	63,053
Restricted funds					
Health	-	293	-	-	293
SAWA	-	13,497	(13,497)	-	-
Restricted funds	-	13,790	(13,497)	-	293
Total funds	113,102	352,783	(402,539)	-	63,346

Health

These funds were received to support our work in health care and provision.

SAWA

These funds were received to support our work with SAWA.

Health

These funds were received to support our work in health care and provision.

SAWA

These funds were received to support our work with SAWA.

12. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Balance brought forward Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Income for the period Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Expenditure in the period Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Transfer between funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Balance carried forward Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Unrestricted funds	226,406	324,579	(437,883)	-	113,102
Restricted funds					
Prosthetics	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
SAWA	-	54,747	(54,747)	-	-
Restricted funds	-	56,747	(56,747)	-	-
Total funds	226,406	381,326	(494,630)	-	113,102

Prosthetics

These funds were received to support a pilot programme focussing on providing lightweight, affordable prostheses for people with upper limb difference on the Syrian Turkish border.

13. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Current assets	87,237	293	87,530
Current liabilities	(24,184)	-	(24,184)
	63,053	293	63,346

	<i>Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>	<i>Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>
Fixed assets	32	-	32
Current assets	167,955	-	167,955
Current liabilities	(54,885)	-	(54,885)
	113,102	-	113,102

14. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no Trustee received any remuneration (2025: £NIL). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses during the year (2025: one member totalling £500).

15. Related party transactions

During the year, there were no related party transactions (2025: £NIL) other than donations totalling £865 from four trustees (2024: £837 from four trustees).

16. Other financial commitments

At 31 March 2026, the Charity had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	Land and buildings Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	<i>Land and buildings Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £</i>
Due within one year	3,736	8,366
Due within two to five years	-	3,736
	3,736	12,102

FURTHER READING

- [1] UNICEF. 'The situation of children in Syria: A turning point for Syria's children and young people.' (Available [here](#)).
- [2] World Health Organisation. 'WHO calls for urgent support to rebuild Syria's health system.' (Available [here](#)).
- [3] UNHCR. 'Comprehensive Overview of IDPs and IDP Returns Dashboard – Syrian Arab Republic, February 2026.' (Available [here](#)).
- [4] UNHCR. 'UNHCR: Despite announced ceasefire, more people are forced to flee their homes in Lebanon.' (Available [here](#)).
- [5] World Food Programme. 'WFP Syria Country Brief, May 2026.' (Available [here](#)).
- [6] Save the Children UK. 'Syrians return home with hope but struggle to secure homes, schools, jobs.' (Available [here](#)).
- [7] New York Times. 'Syria, in Ruins: A year after the dictator fell, Syrians are returning to a country with no clear plan for rebuilding.' (Available [here](#)).
- [8] UNICEF. 'Syrian Arab Republic – Education: Every child has the right to learn.' (Available [here](#)).
- [9] WHO. 'Donors' support for WHO work in Syria makes a difference in protecting and improving health in the country.' (Available [here](#)).
- [10] UNHCR Lebanon. 'What we do: Education.' (Available [here](#)).





**Action
Syria**

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