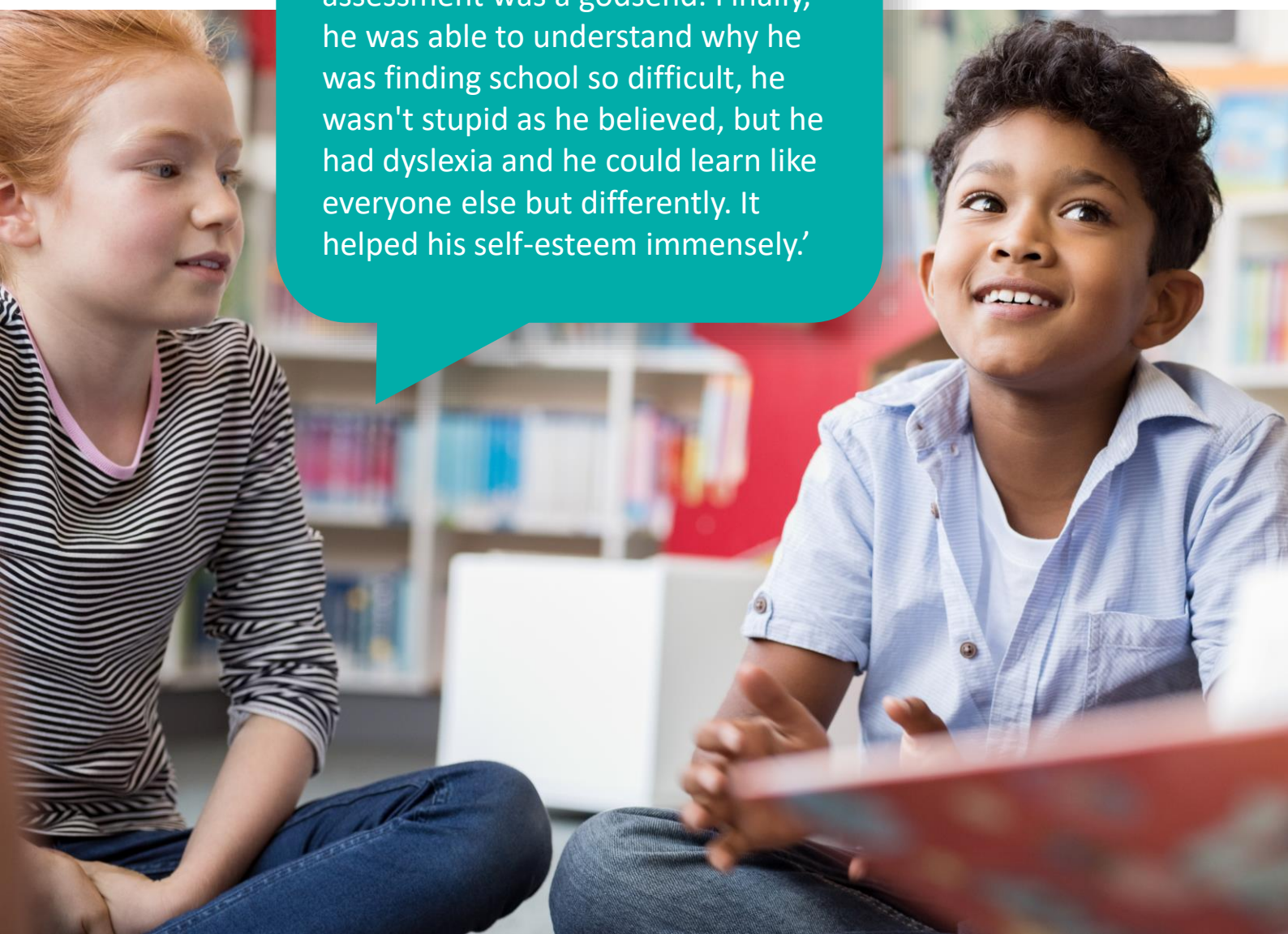


Impact Report

2021-2022

‘Being able to get my son a dyslexia assessment was a godsend. Finally, he was able to understand why he was finding school so difficult, he wasn't stupid as he believed, but he had dyslexia and he could learn like everyone else but differently. It helped his self-esteem immensely.’



Removing barriers to learning, employment and life

For the third year in a row, Covid lockdowns struck at the start of the financial year to test the resilience of the Charity and its staff. Despite the challenges, we ended the year delivering support to more people with dyslexia than ever before.

The number of people helped by the charity last year rose to 2,767.

Most importantly we helped a record number of 271 clients from lower income backgrounds with bursary-funded support. The ability to help those who are least able to pay for vital services remains at the heart of our strategy.

In line with these plans, we continued to deliver an increased number of services from our regional venues, in addition to our premises in Farnham. Combined with an increased use of on-line support we were delighted to extend our reach across the UK.

During the year we also needed to relocate to new premises and secured a cost effective leased building in Farnham with improved access to public transport.

Another highlight of the year was the installation and embedding of HALO, an online booking system improving our ability to help increasing numbers of people.

It is only through the generosity of our donors and supporters that we have been able to make such significant progress and make a difference for people who need help and advice.

Andy Cook
Chief Executive



The year in numbers

2,767

people were helped in total

1,018 dyslexia assessments completed:

9% for adults

91% for children

Over **4,000** sessions of 1: 1 tuition provided to **289** individuals

80 consultations provided to families and individuals needing advice

1,380 people attended dyslexia courses, training and workshops including:

174 families attended the HELP! Parents course

405 teaching staff attended in service training

39 teachers passed through our Diploma courses

226 people attended short dyslexia related courses including Study Skills and Touch Typing

417 employees in the workplace provided with dyslexia awareness training

119 participants attended Saturday Morning Lectures with guest speakers



Trusts and foundations

We are indebted to the generosity of more Trusts and Foundations than could be mentioned individually. We want to pay special tribute to The Constable Education Trust, The Aegis Trust and The Kusuma Trust for their significant support during the last year.

We also acknowledge the amazing support of The Band Trust, The David Family Foundation, The Garfield Weston Foundation, The Linbury Trust and The McGreevy No. 5 Settlement.

While it is impossible to mention every single donor, we are immensely grateful to everyone for their help in enabling us to fulfil our Mission. **Thank you!**

About dyslexia

Affects skills needed for accurate and fluent reading, writing and spelling

Not linked to intelligence

Can affect time-keeping, concentration, following instructions

Can affect organisational skills

Can be extremely damaging to self-esteem and confidence

Often co-occurs with other specific learning difficulties

Affects 1 in 10 people

Affects memory and processing skills

Hereditary

Everyone with dyslexia is different

A life-long learning difference

Mild to severe

What is dyslexia?



- Dyslexia is the most common specific learning difficulty.
- A student with dyslexia is three and a half times more likely to be temporarily or permanently excluded.
- 75% of schools report having no access to specialist dyslexia teachers.
- Over 80% of young people with dyslexia are estimated to leave education without a diagnosis.

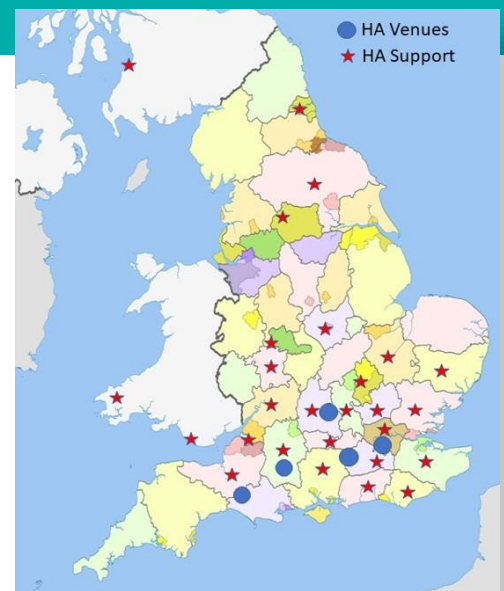
Geographical spread

We have expanded on our Mission to reach a much larger geographical area.

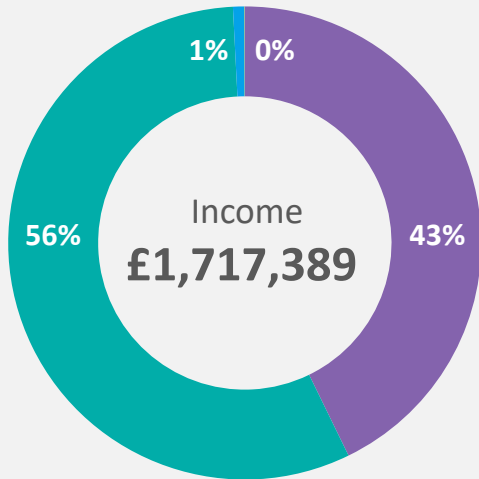
There are now five venues at which face-to-face support is provided, including our original base in Farnham plus others in London, Salisbury, Oxford and Yeovil.

Residents of 27 different counties received one-to-one support from the charity in 2021/22.

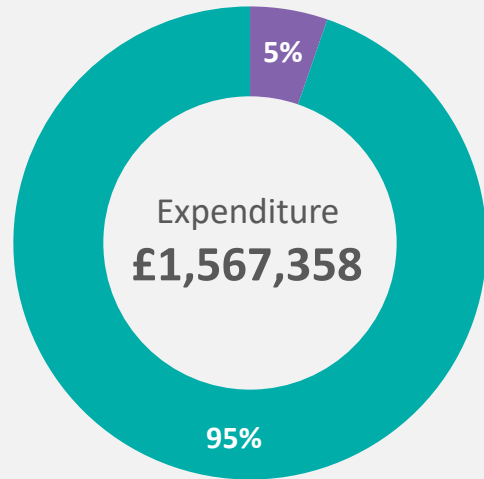
In addition, many others accessed our online services from further afield.



Financial summary



- Donations & legacies **£734,653**
- Charitable activities **£968,978**
- Fundraising events **£13,406**
- Investments **£352**



- Raising Funds **£83,155**
- Charitable activities **£1,484,203**

Supporting disadvantaged families and individuals

The cost of dyslexia support services remains a barrier to many seeking specialist help.

With the cost of living crisis affecting so many people, we are continuing to receive increasing numbers of bursary applications from those on lower incomes.

Thanks to the generosity of so many supporters, we are thrilled to have helped even more people last year who would otherwise not be able to afford specialist services.

Despite the continuing challenging circumstances, the numbers helped **rose 66% to 271** individuals who received £126,095 of support (2021: £84,495 to 163 individuals).

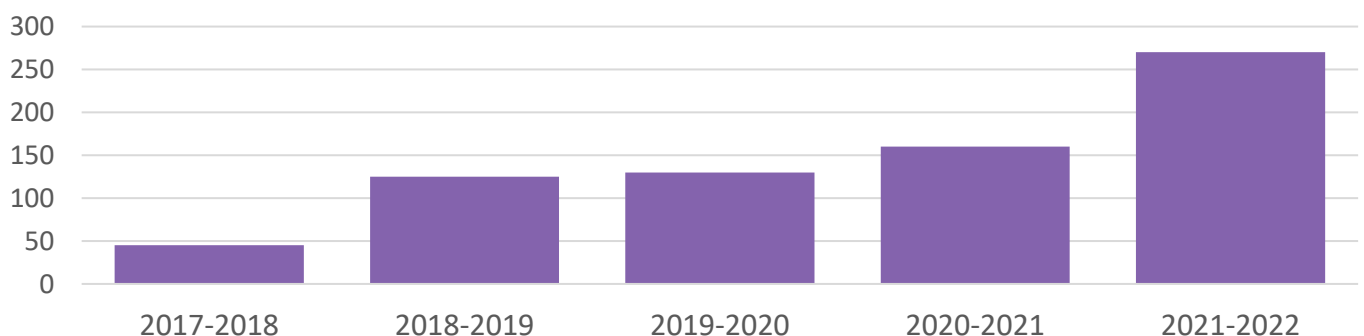
Having my daughter and my Dyslexia assessments done, and so kindly funded by Helen Arkell (otherwise we would never have been able to afford these) has changed our lives for the better in so many ways that I could never really put into words.

My daughter is now thriving because of having hers and myself I'm now at university, something I never thought was ever possible because of my dyslexic struggles.

Thanks to Helen Arkell and the bursary my son's schooling has completely changed, it has had such a huge positive impact on his life and I couldn't be more thankful to everyone involved!

Honestly it gave us our happy boy back. The bursary was a lifeline.

People from lower income families helped 2017 – 2022



Research

It's part of our mission to undertake research.

We conduct, support and report relevant research in a variety of ways.

University of Surrey

Currently we're working with the University of Surrey on two projects.

One project is looking at maths difficulties in dyslexic and non dyslexic learners. The other is looking at the effects of reading difficulties on the mental health of children.

Free teacher training

During the year, a total of 44 State School teachers and teaching assistants undertook free training with us, to provide them with the expertise to better support learners with dyslexia in the classroom.

- 37 received training via the Charity's six week Supporting Learners course.
- 7 underwent the year-long Level 5 Diploma in Teaching Learners with Dyslexia/SpLD.



Awareness training to workplaces

We continued to provide dyslexia awareness training to workplaces and 417 employees benefitted from this during the year.

Training was provided through our popular Lunch & Learn sessions as well as bespoke training tailored to the workplace's specific requirements.

This year we worked with companies including Capgemini, Columbia Threadneedle Investments, the General Medical Council, Help for Heroes, Instinctif partners, Novartis, Sage Homes, Signify and Wilmott Dixon.



FAST Project: Families and Schools Together

During the year, our team worked in partnership with six schools in central London which had higher than average numbers of children receiving free school meals.

We worked with the whole school community to improve the knowledge and understanding of dyslexia – and this will continue to support all children in the classroom and at home.

The children loved working with you and were very vocal about looking forward to seeing you each Thursday! As a school we were very lucky to have this opportunity and for our children to benefit from your support. **Headteacher**

- 30 children benefited from 1:1 lessons and multi-sensory methods to develop their literacy skills and learning strategies to help in their learning in the future.
- 42 parents/carers attended dyslexia awareness sessions and learnt strategies to help support their dyslexic children at home and in school.
- 208 class teachers and teaching assistants received specialist dyslexia training. This improved their understanding of what dyslexia is, how to identify a child who may have dyslexia and how to support a child who is dyslexic in the classroom.

I really enjoyed learning new spelling words and doing cool activities that help me learn. **Pupil**



On average, the reading accuracy of the children made 9.5 standard points of progress which is **significant** progress.

Over the 3 months, the children on average made 11 months of progress in spelling age. This is a ratio gain of 3.7 which would be considered a **substantial** improvement in spelling.

We are very grateful to the Kusuma Trust for funding the project.

How we are making a difference



In a survey to people receiving bursary funded support, people told us:

100%

agreed having a dyslexia assessment helps the person understand themselves better, including their strengths and weaknesses.

96%

agreed a dyslexia assessment helps to access further support.

93%

reported the assessment reduced frustration and anxiety.

95%

reported the assessment led to improved literacy.

91%

reported the assessment improved confidence.

I lost my previous dyslexia assessment a few years ago after fleeing domestic violence. I really needed to get another one as was being constantly misunderstood and had no way of proving my diagnosis. This assessment helped me feel more confident in the fact that I can now prove I have a SpLD and not be so readily discriminated against and has helped me to see my strengths and weaknesses clearer.

My son always insisted he was stupid, he failed all statutory exams and teachers described him as easily distracted and lazy. The assessment helped him to understand why he struggles in school, it gave him and his school a better understanding of his strengths and weaknesses so he can achieve his potential. He is now on track to achieve a 4 or higher in GCSE English next year.

Overcoming barriers Jac's story

Just under twenty years ago, I visited the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity for an assessment, and I was diagnosed with dyslexia. This was a huge turning point in my education, allowing me to become aware of both the weaknesses and strengths of the condition.

I have absolutely no doubt that achieving an early understanding of dyslexia enabled me to continue my education right through to completing a PhD.

I still probably have the spelling age of a ten-year-old, find it near impossible to write a sentence by hand and struggle to read without accompanying audio.

'This year I ran the London Marathon in aid of the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity. They are simply an amazing charity that helps, supports, guides and educates people with dyslexia.'

Jac



Whenever I write a thesis or an academic paper, it's dictated; when I read an article or a book, I read out loud.

Dyslexia has the frustrating ability to make mountains out of molehills for the everyday.

But it also allows you to see that what many people think are mountains are indeed just molehills.

Jac is demonstrating this amazingly in his work as a scientist studying the properties of metals on Mars, to help us gain better understanding of the universe!

Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity

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