ANNUAL REPORT
2019 - 2020
World Literacy Foundation
Europe and United Kingdom
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Annual Report 2019-2020 | World Literacy Foundation
| About the World Literacy Foundation |

The World Literacy Foundation (WLF) is a global non-profit organisation working in the United States, United Kingdom, South America, Australia, and Africa. We strive to ensure that every young individual regardless of geographic location has the opportunity to acquire literacy skills to reach their full potential, succeed at school and beyond.

Learning to read and write is fundamental for any individual; these skills empower children to continue learning and to make positive, informed choices into adulthood. But there are 770 million people globally who are illiterate and 2 billion who struggle to read a sentence. This has a profound impact on their lives, job opportunities, self-esteem and wellbeing.

Our Goals

- To raise global literacy standards
- To provide free access to quality education materials
- To innovate solutions that target wide-scale illiteracy
- To encourage lifelong learning

We are here to change this!
About the World Literacy Foundation

Our Locations

- United States
- Colombia
- Nigeria
- Uganda
- Kenya
- Zimbabwe
- South Africa
- Australia
- United Kingdom
- Guyana
Welcome Message from our CEO

In the UK, we have built on our book distribution work, continuing to target those most in need including refugees and children in the lowest-income households. We also were excited to be returning to Oxford University in the Spring of 2020 to deliver the World Literacy Summit but the impact of the pandemic changed our plans. Thanks to our corporate partners and the adaptiveness of all our stakeholders, we were able to transform quickly and successfully the Summit into an online experience.

As we move into 2020-21, we are already aware of the devastating impact of Covid19 on the communities where we work, especially on education with schools’ closure. Therefore, we are now focusing our attention on Sun Books and Dingo App; two EdTech projects that aim to provide children in remote communities with quality educational resources to continue learning whilst at home and in a state of continued upheaval.

Nourishing a child’s mind in the first five years of life is as essential as feeding her body. New scientific research confirms that what happens to children’s brains in their earliest years shapes the adults they become, the success they achieve, and the contributions they make to our economy and society. Unfortunately, too many of our kids today are not getting the nourishment they need.

Researchers have identified what they’re calling a “word gap.” Many children who grow up in low-income families enter school with substantially smaller vocabularies than their classmates. And this disadvantage leads to further disparities in achievement and success over time, from academic performance and persistence to earnings and family stability even 20 and 30 years later.

Coming to school without words is like coming to school without food or adequate health care. It makes it harder for kids to develop their creativity and imagination, to learn, excel, and live up to their full potential. It should spur us to action just like child hunger and child poverty.

Thank you for your ongoing support! We look forward to working together to bring more books, improved technology, and equal opportunities to all.

Andrew G Kay
Founder and CEO - World Literacy Foundation

As we reflect on another busy and successful year at the World Literacy Foundation, I want to thank the trustees, founders, staff, volunteers, our ambassadors, supporters and our many local delivery partners and schools around the world. Thanks to your collective effort, we continue to grow and move closer towards our goal of bringing literacy to all children and with it the freedom and empowerment it brings.
Our Work in the United Kingdom and Europe

The United Kingdom and Europe World Literacy Foundation is a registered charity and an independent non-profit organisation. It is a collaborative partner and affiliate of WLF in Australia, United States, South America and Africa.

Our work in the UK and across the world has a common aim— to empower children through literacy and create a route out of poverty.

In the UK, around 9 million adults in England are functionally illiterate, it means they struggle to read and write at a basic level. Additionally, a growing number of children, particularly those from low-income households, don’t own a single book. Early years are a critical time as children begin to learn skills they will continue to develop throughout their lifetime. Equipping them with the educational tools to enhance their reading and writing skills will enable them to succeed in school and transcend beyond.
| Our Impact in 2019-20 |

- Times children or parents accessed our services: 35,500 +
- Leaders in the UK that participated in the WLF Ambassador Programme: 140 +
- Books distributed: 28,800 +
- Million people reached through mainstream media, advocacy events and social media: 6 +
- Volunteer hours donated to our projects: 2,500 +
Our Projects in the UK

UK Literacy Activities

Since 2014, we are committed to ensure every child in the UK gains the literacy skills they need to prepare for their future education and employment. We distribute children’s books, pop-up libraries and more learning resources to children in disadvantaged communities across the UK.

In 2019-20, we ran 142 local activities including book distributions, fundraising events, WLF Ambassador initiatives and Sun Books related activities.

• 800 books distributed to refugee and migrant groups who arrived in the UK with few if any belongings.

• 5000 books donated to children’s centres in deprived communities including North Kensington and Tower Hamlets in London and in Birmingham.

• We delivered 15,000+ books gift packs in 42 communities at Christmas parties and events held in schools.

The children were so excited to receive the gift of books from WLF at Christmas. For many, it was their first book.

Sue Gardner
Oasis Community, Birmingham
Uk Reads

It is estimated that 380,000 children in the UK do not own a book. We aspire to change this through our new book distribution programme; UK Reads.

UK Reads draws together and builds on our existing literacy work with refugee groups, community centres that support lower-income families and church-based outreach groups.

The Covid19 lockdown has shown the need for new education strategies to keep children learning during the global crisis. With schools and libraries closed, children from deprived homes who lack digital access, face a real gap in their continued learning and development.

We aim to provide physical, age-appropriate books and support to parents and carers to promote reading together with children from the earliest ages at home. UK Reads focuses on reaching those most in need, working in partnership with local community groups. We strive to see all children discover the joy of reading in their early years and develop literacy skills for future academic success.

Further information: www.ukreads.org
World Literacy Summit

This biennial conference brings together global literacy leaders, NGOs, policy-makers and learners to advocate, champion and be educated about the vital importance of literacy.

In April 2020, due to security measures taken worldwide to reduce the spread of the Covid19, we celebrated World Literacy Summit as an online event with streaming services for speakers’ presentations, panel discussions, webinars and more. Over 100+ meaningful presentations have been compiled in a video library available at:

www.worldliteracysummit.org

A big thank you for providing such a wealth of inspiring presentations to your audience. I am fully aware of the huge amount of planning and programming for delivering the conference online, I really appreciate how you coped with the challenge of having to switch formats without a long time, wishing you all the best!

Dorothee Gaile,
User WLS20-Online Experience
Our Projects in the UK

WLF Ambassador Programme

Every year, we run the WLF Ambassador Programme, an initiative to train like-minded individuals from all over the world to be a local voice and fundraise for literacy in their schools, universities, communities or social groups.

This year, more than 90 participants from the UK and Europe joined the programme. They developed their leadership and advocacy skills to benefit hundreds of children who do not have access to quality education.

Further information:

www.worldliteracyfoundation.org/ambassador

“

It has been an exciting journey with the World Literacy Foundation. I was charged to be responsible not only for myself, but for disadvantaged children who do not have the opportunity that I did while growing up. Thank you for all you are doing. I look forward to working again with you in future.

Taibat Hussain
WLF Ambassador
Our Work Globally

In addition to promoting and advocating for literacy through local projects, the UK and Europe staff and volunteers raise funds and awareness for our literacy projects in lower-income countries.

Sun Books

High rates of illiteracy, lack of educational resources, limited access to internet and electricity in remote areas and few resources and support for teachers are still a reality in over 20 million classrooms in the developing world.

Sun Books is an initiative that brings together solar power, literacy resources, technology, and the local community to enhance literacy levels and the education of children in 'off-the-grid' locations. The literacy app has +800 eBooks, digital literacy activities and teacher’s resources impacting the education of hundreds of children living in Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Guyana.

Further details: www.sunbooks.org

Most children in my class have never owned a book. Now with Sun Books, my students are reading and excited about learning and future opportunities.

Olim,
Teacher

Children Benefited: 9,927
Tablets Distributed: 150
Teachers’ Workshop: 50
EBooks, videos, learning activities & games: +800
Volunteering Hours: 1200

Content Creation:
- eBooks
- videos
- learning activities
- games
Our Work Globally

Aprende Leyendo

We have been providing our literacy support and learning resources to children in disadvantaged communities that have limited or no access to education in Colombia.

Our activities aim to improve the literacy skills of children by giving them free access to quality education materials and innovative solutions that target wide-scale illiteracy. Our literacy tutoring sessions encourage children to read together, practice writing exercises, play fun games, and share a meal.

We are now implementing ‘Dingo App’, a digital learning tool that aims to develop and enhance the literacy skills of children in both Spanish and English.

Further details: www.aprendeleyendo.com

In the reading group, they teach me many things, they teach the vowels and letters of the alphabet, we do exercises and learn words on the activity’s books. They also read to me stories that are very funny and I learn from them. I want to be there every week, it’s the best!

Dariana, 5 years old
Financial Highlights

Income / Expenditure

Total Income £44,754
Total Expenditure £38,435,79

Spending Breakdown

- Project Delivery Cost: 85%, £32,333.44
- Fundraising: 12%, £4,952.02
- Office/Administration: 3%, £1,150.33
| Thank You |

**Trustees**

Dr Donald Green, Chairman  
President Georgia Highland  

Darryn Keneally, Deputy Chairman  
Director of Janico Pty Ltd  

Angelica Correa, Project Coordinator,  
Refuge of Hope Inc  

Andrew Kay, CEO of World Literacy Foundation International  

Paula Londono, Reading and Literacy Tutor  

John Stewart, Community Development Manager  

Jordan Kay CEO Great Wrap  

**Chief Executive**

Andrew Kay  

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**Donors & Supporters**

We would like to thank the following companies and foundations for their support in 2019-20:

- Books Glorious Books
- Felicity Wide Charitable Trust
- The Michael Cornish Charitable Trust
- Oxford University Press
- Pearson International Project Literacy
- Souter Charitable Trust
- STEP PCA
- Vizrt Group

Additionally, we would like to thank our wonderful ambassadors and individual donors who have fundraised, volunteered or contributed to the World Literacy Foundation United Kingdom and Europe this year.
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Principal goals and activities of United Kingdom & Europe World Literacy Foundation

We are dedicated to transforming the lives of the world’s most disadvantaged children by focusing on literacy and education. We implement sustainable programs which aim to raise literacy standards and give individuals every possible chance to receive a quality education; promoting and teaching literacy in early childhood years is not only key to success at school but also later in life.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

In 2019-20
- We distributed an estimated 15,000 children’s books across the UK to disadvantaged children
- We promoted our UK Reads programme launched in 2020
- We ran the biennial World Literacy Summit in Oxford March 2020. The summit was moved online due to the Covid 19 pandemic that prevented travel and face-to-face meeting.
- We provided our Solar panel tablet devices (Sun Books) to provide e-libraries in classrooms in Africa and in Latin America giving access to books and literacy benefits to thousands of children.
- Further details are outlined in the 2019-2020 Annual Report.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

No Changes were made during the reporting period.

We believe we build trust by acting ethically, with integrity and fairness, to do the right thing. Our leadership sets the tone from the top and this mindset is reinforced by our culture and values: to act with integrity, make a difference, care, work together and reimagine the possible.

CONSTITUTION

No Changes were made during the reporting period.

United Kingdom & Europe World Literacy Foundation is a Charity (registered number 1154264). Charitable status was granted on 18 October 2013. The Charity is a company limited by guarantee (registered number 8475669). The registered office is at Suite 225, 46 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1DA
RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have an ongoing policy of reviewing, identifying and mitigating the operational, financial and strategic risks to which the charity is exposed in the UK and around the world. A risk register is maintained, which identifies all significant risks and proposes actions to be taken to reduce the charity’s exposure as appropriate. The management team reviews the risk register regularly during the year, which is formally presented to the Trustees on an annual basis. Risks are appraised through a combination of likelihood of occurrence and potential impact, with actions agreed that reduce residual risk to an acceptable level.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The appointment of Trustees is governed by the Trust Deed. The Board of Trustees is required to monitor the affairs and the general business of the Charity and meets as required.

Trustees of the World Literacy Foundation United Kingdom and Europe who served during the period are:

Chairman - Dr Donald Green, President Georgia Highland (appointed 10 June 2019 and re-elected 19 June 2020)
Deputy Chairman – Darryn Keneally, Director of Janico Pty Ltd. (appointed 1 September 2013 and re-elected on 19 June 2020)
Angelica Correa, Project Coordinator, Refuge of Hope Inc. (appointed 1 September 2013 and re-elected on 19 June 2020)
Andrew Kay, CEO of World Literacy Foundation International, (appointed 5 April 2013 and re-elected on 19 June 2020)
Paula Londono, Reading and Literacy Tutor (appointed 5 April 2013 and re-elected 19 June 2020)

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees have approved a reserves policy to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level sufficient to support the core activities of the organisation for a minimum of 3 months. This level of reserves is deemed prudent by the Trustees, to ensure that the work and services of the organisation can be planned with some certainty. This policy is reviewed by the Trustees on an annual basis. At year end the organisation is still working towards meeting this minimum threshold. The Trustees will continue to monitor the reserves position closely over the coming year.

The charity retained earnings for the year ended April 2020 £ 26,111.60

TRUSTEES’ RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit for that period. As the World Literacy Foundation UK & Europe continues to develop and grow, the Trustees have agreed to adopt the UK Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting by Charities in future accounting years. These accounts for the period ending 30 April 2020 have been prepared in accordance with special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- state suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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 applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities.

By order of the Board

Andrew Kay
Director/Trustee
20 July 2020
Independent examiners' report

I report on the accounts of United Kingdom & Europe World Literacy Foundation for the period ended April 30, 2020.

This Report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the trustee those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the trustee as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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 you as 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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention, which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Louis Villanesa | Registered Tax Agent / Public Accountant
Professional member, Institute of Public Accountants
0412 068 427 | louis@villanesa.com.au
VILLA & CO - Louis Accounting Services
Office: 210A Burke Rd, Toorak, Vic 3122
Postal address: PO Box 1961, Wantirna South, Vic 3152

20 July 2020
### United Kingdom & Europe World Literacy Foundation

**Balance Sheet**

**Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 April 2020**

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<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Equity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Retained Earnings</td>
<td>26,181.40</td>
<td>19,793.39</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td>26,181.40</td>
<td>19,793.39</td>
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<td><strong>Represented by:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash at Bank - Current Account</td>
<td>8,168.35</td>
<td>1,810.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash at Bank - Other Funds</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td>8,168.35</td>
<td>1,810.24</td>
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<td><strong>Short Term Loan</strong></td>
<td>17,943.75</td>
<td>17,943.75</td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>26,112.10</td>
<td>19,793.39</td>
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<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Retained Earnings</strong></td>
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**Balance at 1 May 2012**

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<th>19,793.39</th>
<th>18,895.06</th>
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<td>Income &amp; Expenditure Account</td>
<td>6,198.31</td>
<td>858.31</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Balance at 30/04/2020</strong></td>
<td>26,112.10</td>
<td>19,793.39</td>
</tr>
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Annual Statements give true and fair view of financial performance and position of the company limited by guarantee

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 April 2020.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 20 of July 2020 and were signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Kay Director/Trustee 20 July 2020

Louis Vilanculos / Registered Tax Agent / Public Accountant

Professionals: number registration 220564

Institute of Public Accountants

0412 069 057 accounting@Vilanculos.com.au

VILA B & CO - Louis Accounting Services

Office: 51X/40 M Toorak, Suite 727 / 5 Cummins Rd Melbourne VIC 3064/Scotia

Postal Address: PO Box 3011, Mountain Gate, Vic 3158
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 30 April 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES
   a. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
      The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.
      
      Comparative figures
      During the current year, the company has made some activities that have been allocated to expenditures in comparison with previous years where there were no activities.

   b. TURNOVER
      Turnover represents income from Trust/Foundations grants and other organisations to promote early childhood literacy and education.

2. COMPANY STATUS
   United Kingdom & Europe World Literacy Foundation is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

3. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS
   The Trustees are not aware of any capital commitments.

4. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES
   The Trustees are not aware of any contingent liabilities.