



Blackpool,  
Fylde & Wyre

Home-Start  
Blackpool, Fylde & Fylde

15<sup>th</sup> 50<sup>th</sup>  
Happy Birthday

Home-Start UK

ANNUAL REPORT  
2022 - 2023



Because  
childhood  
can't wait



Home-Start works with families in communities across the UK. Starting in the home, our approach is as individual as the people we're helping. No judgement, it is just compassionate, confidential help and expert support.

Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre offers volunteer led parent-to-parent support. Our volunteers understand how hard it can be to be a parent. They work alongside parents in their own homes, helping them to cope with the stresses and strains of life. They support parents to have the skills, confidence, and strength they need to nurture their children.

We measure the impact and effectiveness of our work for every family we see. We use these insights to ensure we are making a lasting difference for all the children and families we support.

This report tells the stories of some of those families and celebrates the impact we have made over the last year.

We are proud that we are able to show, using an evidence-based approach, the successes we have had and the impact our work has had on the lives of families in Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre.

We hope that you enjoy reading our 2022 - 2023 report and that you will continue to support us in the future, so that no child's future is limited.

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# Who We Are

Staff & Trustees between 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2023



**Carole Harrison**  
Chair of Trustees



**Peter Law-Jones**  
Vice Chair



**Karen Eaton**  
Treasurer



**Denise Taylor**  
Company Secretary



**Kath Asquith**  
Trustee



**Glenys Markland**  
Trustee



**Hilary Wilkinson**  
Trustee



**Vivienne Wilder**  
Trustee



**Revd Damian Platt**  
Trustee



**Angie Walsh**  
OBE Trustee



**Paul Aisthorpe**  
Trustee Retired



**Liz Petch**  
Trustee



**Adrian May**  
Trustee



**Adrian Williams**  
Trustee



**Pat Naylor**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Gill Roper**  
Office Manager



**Theresa Prescott-Jones**  
Finance Officer



**Lesley Hoyle**  
Senior Coordinator



**Hilda Siddoway**  
Assistant Administrator



**Verla Wilkinson**  
Team Leader



**Sue Uttley**  
Shop Manager



**Dona Kirkham**  
Corporate Fundraising Manager (Left)



**Eric Lee**  
Dad Matters Coordinator



**Aviel Lowdnes**  
Coordinator (Left)



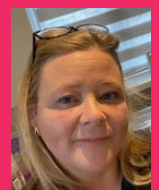
**Emma James**  
Army Coordinator



**Steph Cartmell**  
Coordinator



**Joanne Jenkinson**  
Coordinator (Left)



**Karen Charlton**  
Coordinator



# WHY HOME-START IS HERE

In 2021, Home-Start UK supported 46,000 children in 25,000 families, in 182 communities across the UK and among British armed forces families in Cyprus. We are proud to stand alongside these families and see the difference that our dedicated staff and over 10,000 Home-Start volunteers make every day.

But we can't stand still. This is **Home-Start UK's 50th anniversary year**, and **Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre's 15th anniversary**. We want to shape a community where all children have the best possible start in life.

There continues to be significant need for early years support – particularly in the first 1,001 days. We could do so much more with more funding because right now, we can only work with a fraction of the families we would like to.



# Home-Start Blackpool Fylde and Wyre Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025

<p><b>Home-Start Together With Families</b></p> <p>Home-Start’s vision is to shape our geographical area where all children have the best possible start in life. We want to make sure that no parent or family feels alone in the critical task of raising children. Our focus is on building compassionate communities of support for families, parents and children - because childhood can’t wait.</p>	<p><b>Our Four Strategic Commitments</b></p> <p>Led by our passionate movement of Home-Start volunteers, staff and supporters, we will bring our vision to life for families through four strategic commitments.</p>			
	<p><b>GROWTH</b></p> <p>A collective ambition to reach significantly more families</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p>	<p><b>VOICE</b></p> <p>Home-Start will support &amp; empower families by working with them &amp; other stakeholders</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p>	<p><b>INCLUSION</b></p> <p>Home-Start will advance inclusion and equity in all we do</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p>	<p><b>IMPACT</b></p> <p>Home-Start BFW will be stronger together working with Local Home-Starts across Lancashire</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p>
	<p>More parents with young children can access support in a way that works for them</p>	<p>More families avoiding crisis as a result of receiving appropriate early support</p>	<p>Everyone feels included at Home-Start</p>	<p>A thriving, collaborative community of high-quality Home-Start provision for families with young children</p>
<p><b>Why it Matters</b></p> <p>The start of a child’s life, starting from pregnancy, lays the foundations for physical and mental health. Babies’ brains develop rapidly and are at their most adaptable in the earliest years of life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To give children the best start for life requires nurturing relationships, an enriching home environment, and parents who are supported to fulfil this essential role.</li> <li>• Home-Start’s relational, compassionate support offers practical and emotional help to parents and carers in communities.</li> </ul>	<p><b>How will we know we are successful?</b></p> <p>By 2025, through a vibrant, resilient, inclusive organisation, we will:</p>			
	<p><b>AMBITION 1:</b></p> <p>Home-Start will be working directly with 350 families each year through home visiting and group work (156 active families as of April 2022).</p>	<p><b>AMBITION 2:</b></p> <p>150 active volunteers will power our Home-Start across Blackpool Fylde and Wyre (106 as at 2022).</p>	<p><b>AMBITION 3:</b></p> <p>We will see greater diversity across Home-Start volunteers, trustees, staff and leadership, and families - with access to our support from underrepresented groups.</p>	<p><b>AMBITION 4:</b></p> <p>We will be working with the HSUK network to develop new models of partnership, delivery, and services with the potential to radically scale our reach and accessibility for local families.</p>



# What we do

A child's earliest years are irreplaceable. Without a stable loving and nurturing environment, a very young child will not develop the vital foundations they need.

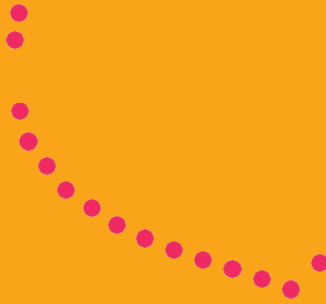
Home-Start is there for parents when they need us most because childhood can't wait. Our community network of trained volunteers, and expert support helps families with young children through their challenging times.



# Why we do it

The earliest years make the biggest impact.

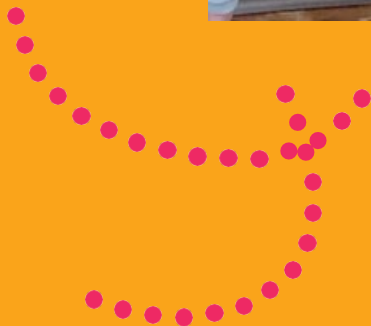
Home-Start makes sure those years count so that no child's future is limited.



# How we do it

Home-Start offer no judgement, just compassionate, confidential help, and support.

Starting in the home or in a group environment, our approach is as individual as the people we're helping.



# Chair's Report 2022-2023

In 2008, I attended a meeting to set up a steering group to raise enough funds to launch Home-Start Fylde. The scheme was launched in 2010. Over the last 13 years, Home-Start Fylde became Home-Start Blackpool and Fylde and then what it is today, Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre. During these years there have been many changes and challenges, BUT one thing that has not changed and WILL not change, is the commitment to local families, in providing support, encouragement and friendship wherever it is needed. This support is provided by our fantastic volunteers, supervised by our co-ordinators. We know that the support has benefitted the family when they know longer require our help. Throughout all the changes and challenges faced over the years, I am proud to report that HSBFW continues to provide support to local families across the region through home-visiting, stay and play groups and our Dad Matters programme.

Everyone needs a helping hand from time to time. I know that I have had moments in my life when I have been very grateful to be on the receiving end of much needed support. Support is not always easy to quantify. It can be as simple as providing a listening ear, to more drastic intervention when safety and welfare may be at risk.

I have already mentioned our priceless volunteers without whom there wouldn't be this local Home-Start. They are supported by the staff at HSBFW, whose commitment to HSBFW is second to none. To both staff and volunteers, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for all that they do, often going beyond the call of duty.

Another group of volunteers are my fellow trustees who give their time and expertise to HSBFW and I thank them for too.

We also enjoy much local support ranging from donations to fundraising activities and supporting our shop for which we are very grateful.

To our CEO, Pat there are no words to express my admiration for her hard work and commitment to HSBFW. Redoubtable is a word that I have used in the past to describe Pat and it remains so. She provides leadership and example to all who are fortunate to work with her. "Thank you" seems inadequate.

This is the last report that I will make as Chair of Trustees of HSBFW, the charity I have supported during the last 15 Years. I will continue to support HSBFW but not in the same way. It has been my privilege and honour to be associated with such a necessary and worthwhile charity. I have met and worked with some wonderful people and made some lifelong friends.

My fervent wish is that HSBFW continues to provide this priceless and invaluable service for many years to come.

Carole Harrison  
July 2023



# Treasurer's Report

## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

### Financial Review:

This year has again been a relatively stable one for Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre (HSBF&W). However, we are aware that our Lottery funding ends next year so are, as always, working hard to ensure that we have sufficient funds to keep doing the important work that we do. Our reserves are in a healthy position and ensure we are properly prepared in case of any unforeseen circumstances.

### Charity Shop:

The shop continues to be a great asset to HSBF&W not only provides vital funds to our reserves but also increases the profile locally. This year the shop generated over £34,000 in income.

Enormous thanks are given to Sue and our fabulous team of volunteers who make the shop so successful. We are extremely grateful for everything they do, particularly promoting Gift Aid to our donors. This enables us to claim an extra 25% back from HMRC at no cost to us or our donors.

### Financial information:

The cash at Bank and in hand at 31 March 2023 totalled £300,818 (£238,664 for 21/22). Taking into account the net effect of other assets (the value of furniture and fittings and computer equipment, and debtors in respect of money owed to us at 31 March) and liabilities (creditors in respect of amounts owed by the Scheme at 31 March), the Total Charity Funds is £293,945 (£230,543 in 21/22) at the end of the financial year.

Those Total Funds are split between Restricted Funds, which must be used for the purpose specified by the funder at the time they were given, and Unrestricted Funds which may be used for any purpose in keeping with the Scheme's aims and objectives. The split of those Total Funds is - Restricted Funds £110,505 (£59,402 in 21/22) and Unrestricted Funds £183, 440 (£171,141 in 21/22). The details are in Note 15 to the accounts.

We are fortunate to be in a financially sound position but are always aware of the precarious nature of funding. However, with our reserves, the continued support of staff, volunteers, donors and supporters I am confident that we shall go forward into the next year with continued success both professionally and financially.

Karen Eaton (Treasurer HSBF&W)

September 2023



# Pat Naylor - CEO

## April 2022 – March 2023



One of the best things about being involved with Home-Start is the privilege of supporting parents as they grow in confidence, strengthen their relationship with their children and widen links with the local community, giving their children the best possible start in life.

**We couldn't do this without our volunteers who are the heart of everything we do they donate their valuable skills and time to our families and do tremendous work.**



This year we worked with 370 families with 572 children from 1/4/22 – 31/3/23, which for a relatively small team of 11 staff is pretty remarkable. There were 1053 attendances at our family group sessions. We delivered holiday, activities and food provision (HAF) at the Progress Housing Community Centre in Freckleton during 2022. Over 50 children attended. As part of this funding, we organised two, one day, Christmas parties, one in Freckleton for our HAF group and one in St Anne's for Ukrainian, Polish and Turkish refugee and asylum seeker families.

We said goodbye to our Senior Coordinator, **Lesley Hoyle** who retired at the end of March 2023. Lesley has been with Home-Start from the beginning, being a volunteer on our first ever-volunteer preparation course.

We also said goodbye to **Dona Kirkham** (Corporate Fundraiser) **Paul Aisthorpe** (Trustee), **Joanne Jenkinson** (Wyre Coordinator) and **Aviel Lowndes** (Blackpool Coordinator) all these people have moved on to take up other work and I thank them all for their contribution to Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre.



Cont.'

We recruited and trained 16 new home visiting and family group volunteers. We now have 113 volunteers, including Home Visitors, Trustees, Retail, Group support, Fundraisers, Administration support and other ad hoc volunteers. We need more though, so if you know someone who wants to be involved in an amazing organisation, please do send them our way.

This year, support has been provided to families dealing with: Lone Parents, Substance Misuse, Domestic Abuse, Mental Health, Learning Disabilities (parent / child), Perinatal Mental Health, Child's Behaviour, Financial Issues, Isolation and Loneliness, Parents Self Esteem, Stress Caused by Conflict in the Family, Multiple Births, Bereavement and Refugee and Asylum families.

We have delivered this support through:

- ✓ One to one home visiting by trained volunteers in the family's own home
- ✓ Family stay and play groups in Blackpool, Fylde, Wyre and Weeton Barracks
- ✓ Dad Matters Walk and Talk events and drop ins
- ✓ Holidays Activities and Food holiday clubs for children aged 6 – 12 (Easter, Summer and Christmas)
- ✓ Day trips and events with parents and children
- ✓ Our school readiness programme – Big Hopes Big Future
- ✓ Early Language Development
- ✓ Blackpool Football Club Supporters Trust donated three Mascot Days for three of our children.

<https://www.blackpoolfc.co.uk/news/2022/july/23/mascot-packages-available-again/> the cost of this package ranges from £125 for season ticket holders, to £165 for non-season ticket holders – its huge opportunity for the child to make forever memories.



Of course, we couldn't do any of this without our funders, both large and small and those people who have donated their hard earned cash to us, or done crazy sponsored events such as, Running a mile for every £1 donated, Walking the Big One, Skydiving, or Driving Across Europe in a 'banger'!

**Every penny counts.**

**This report really is just a snapshot of the work we have undertaken this financial year.**

**I am sure you will enjoy reading the rest of this report – we are a brilliant, committed, funny, professional, hardworking, skilled, passionate team of Trustees, Staff and Volunteers**

**(And yes, I am blowing our own trumpet!)**

**Thank you for your continued support. Pat Naylor CEO**

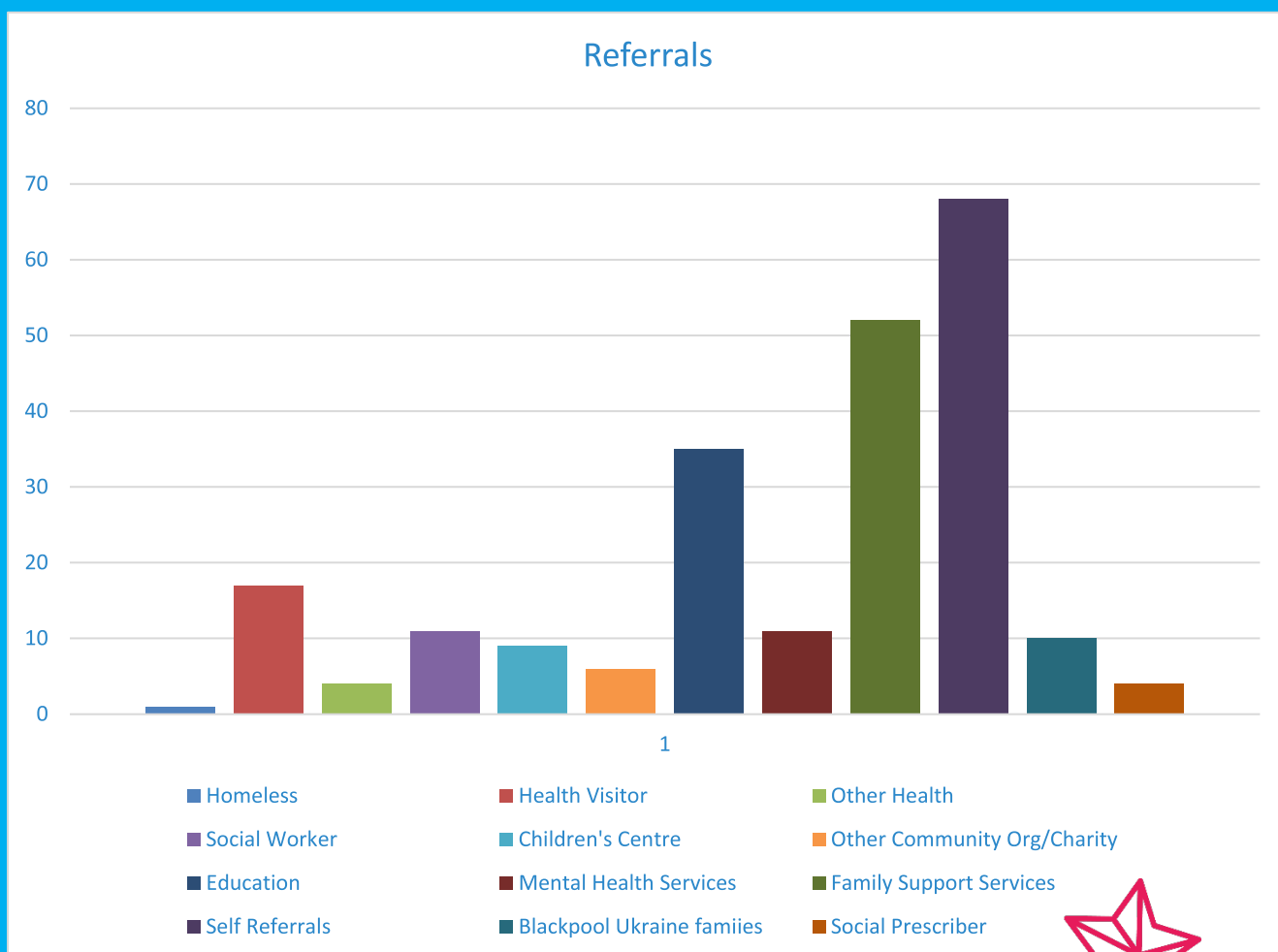
# Home-Start in the Community - Our Partners

Home-Start works with a wide range of local organisations within the voluntary and statutory sector to enhance the support offered to families, to tackle the issues together that are important to families and communities.

We receive referrals from Families themselves, Health Visitors, Family Support Services, Mental Health Services and Education.

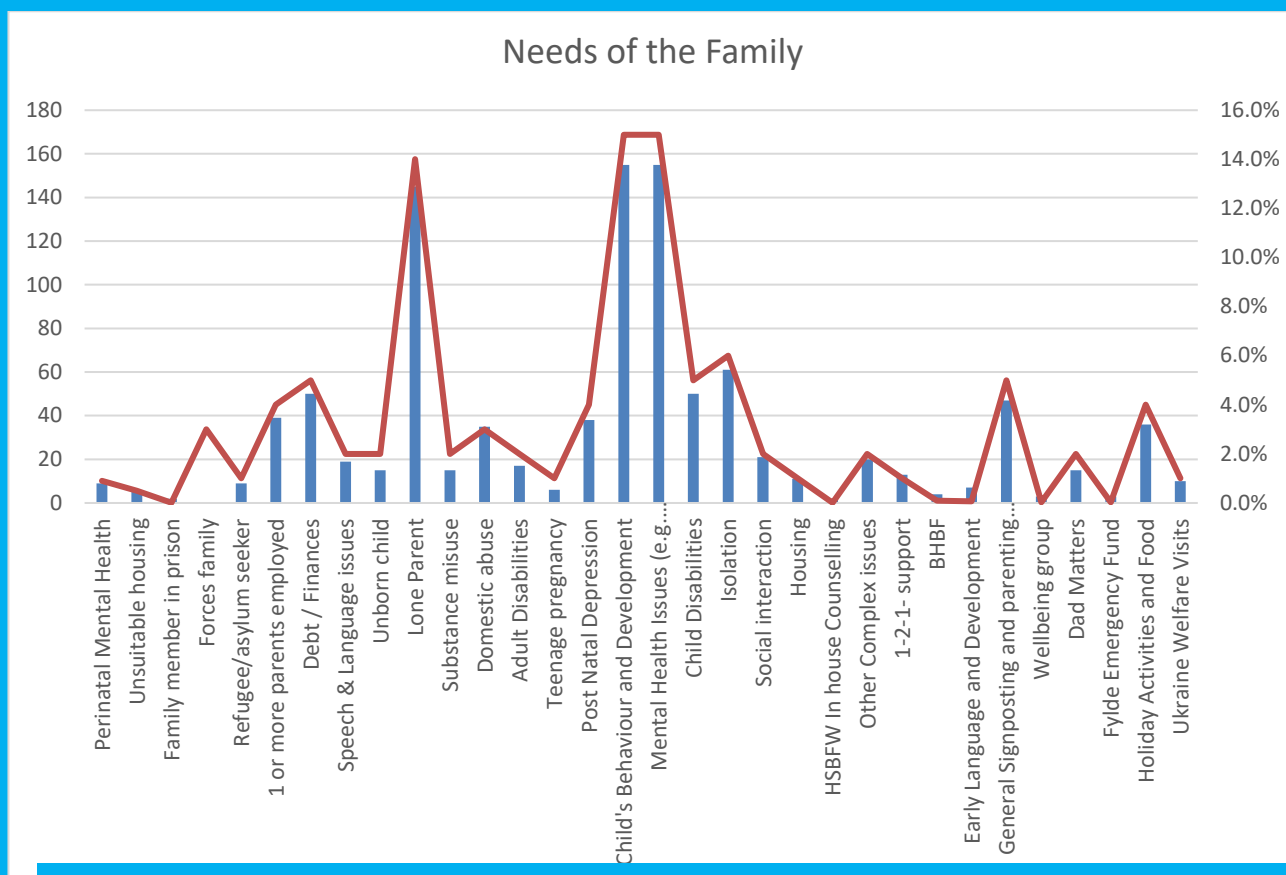
Home-Start is not a substitute for professional service, but complimentary to them and the best results are achieved through working together.

Working together improves the outcomes for our children and families. By communicating and working together, we reduce the risk of family crisis and breakdown, helping to break the cycle of deprivation and reduce isolation in our community.



# Working with Families

Becoming a parent is a joyful but sometimes overwhelming time and it becomes even harder when you are facing additional challenges such as mental health difficulties, financial pressures, loneliness, isolation, or lack of support networks.



**Many families face more than one challenge. Here is breakdown of some of the issues the families face.**

Managing Child's Behaviour, Listening To Children and Respecting Their Rights	Coping With Child's Physical Health
Being involved in the Child (ren)'s Development/Early Learning and Socialisation	Coping With Child's Mental Health
Coping With Own Physical Health	Managing the Household Budget
Coping With Own Mental Health	The Day-to-day Running of the House
Coping With Loneliness and Social Isolation	Stress Caused By Conflict in the Family
Parent's Confidence Self-esteem	Coping with Extra Work Caused by Multiple Birth/children Under 5
Parents own learning needs	Access to Other Services



# Measuring the impact



We have supported over the year 2022-2023

237  
Families

314  
Adults

427  
Children

227  
5yrs and under

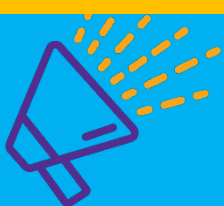
200  
6yrs and over

No. of children subject  
to an assessment of needs

40

No. of children on a  
child in need plan  
child Protection plan

8



# Group News 2022-2023

## St Annes Group

St Annes is a well-established group and the volunteers who attend to help are consistent and valuable, members of the team. They help set up, support, and entertain the children and families throughout the session, then help to sanitise and clear away at the end, making sure the hall is just as we found it.

We have been consistent with new and returning families who have seen their children grow in confidence, learning to play, socialise, share, and develop new skills. The parents have also developed a friendly bond staying connected over a WhatsApp group sharing support to each other and with support from the Home-Start team they have loved returning after holiday breaks.

We continue to hold theme days to determine what activity we put out, some examples of this are:

Burns Night – one parent made haggis for everyone to try with a helping of ‘neeps and tatties.’ The children loved hearing bagpipes, and all attended in their best tartan.

Pancake day – with premade pancakes they made smiley faces on the top with fruit. We discussed their favourite toppings.

Educational week – Each session is about the development of the child, this particular session we looked at jigsaws, sorting colours and shapes, name recognition.

Gardening week – we planted some sunflower seeds and decorated the pot; this has become a little bit of a competition now of who’s is the biggest.

The parents have taken it upon themselves to bring snacks to introduce into the group timetable. By doing a snack time we have instilled skills on developing table manners and mealtime routine.

Last year we graduated 3 children who completed the Big Hopes Big Future programme and now attend big school. We also said goodbye to a long-standing volunteer at group who went on to retire.

Steph Cartmell - Coordinator



## Weeton Group

The Duke of Lancaster Regiment is based at Weeton Barracks, the majority of the regiment moved to Cyprus during the year, however we continued to offer our stay and play group, a drop in and our Dad Matters programme. We received support from Rachel Day of the Army Welfare Service to do this work. The aim of the Stay and Play Group is to provide an environment where children and parents can get together in a friendly relaxed atmosphere and make new friends; this is particularly important at Weeton Barracks due to its isolated location.

Our Army Coordinator has specific responsibilities to support Army families whether at group or through Home Visiting.

## Blackpool Group

We've had an exciting year as we settled into a new venue for our Blackpool Group, at Holy Cross Church on Central Drive; a bright and welcoming environment for our families, with the added bonus of a large and beautiful garden. The children love exploring the outdoors and we have spent many sessions learning about nature, smelling the herb plants and flowers and looking for bugs! The garden is large, allowing for the children to run and get much needed fresh air.

Our group has grown from strength to strength, and it has been lovely seeing our families socialise and make new friendships. It is especially rewarding to see our parents support and empowering each other.

We have some amazing volunteers who give up their time to come to our group, support our families and children and build great relationships. They are a huge asset to Home-Start and work incredibly hard to ensure that our group runs smoothly, safely and meets the needs of our families and children. Special thanks go to our volunteers Melissa, Sue and Vicky for your support.

We have celebrated many events this year and had our first Christmas in our new venue. We had a great party, with a visit from Santa and lots of games. We have enjoyed many celebrations and we look forward to the year ahead, planning lots of new activities and growing our fantastic group.

Karen Charlton - Coordinator



## Fleetwood Group

We would like to thank Fleetwood Methodist Church for their unwavering support. They continue to help us provide support in Fleetwood and the surrounding community which simply wouldn't be possible without them.

Our volunteers Niccola, Melissa, Barbara, and Liz, give up their time to support each week to help set up our sessions and support our families on a weekly basis. They are a fantastic asset and work extremely hard to enable our sessions to run effectively.

As always, we have celebrated many different events and throughout the year. Including promoting awareness weeks such as self-care week and Children's mental health week.

We entered the Fleetwood Methodist Church Christmas tree competition again this year, and as always, it's great to be a part of this beautiful event and see the many different tree designs entered. We were also ecstatic to find out that we WON our category, and the planning for this year's tree has already started.

Katie Ashworth - Coordinator



# Easter '22 Summer '22, Christmas '22, Holiday and Activities Food (programme)

During the year we have continued to support Fylde Council Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme by delivering Holiday clubs at Lower Lane Freckleton Christmas 2022 (1 day party), Easter 202 (4 days) and Summer 2022 (16 days). We also held a Christmas Party in St Annes (1 day).

The aim of the HAF Programme is to provide a hot meal during the school holiday period for the 5 to 11 year old children in the local area who would be entitled to free school meals. Over the 3 Holidays, we provided 18 days of Holiday Club with 348 meals enjoyed by the children attending. Each day of the Club was attended by up to twenty-five children who enjoyed a great lunch, activities, games, craft, outdoor play and had lots of fun!!

We were supported every day by some of our amazing Volunteers who came along to paint, glue, run about outside and help to ensure the children have a positive and rewarding experience when with us. We would not be able to run our club without our Volunteers and are incredibly grateful for their fabulous support.

AFC Fylde have continued to support with a member of their Community Team providing outdoor sports and indoor games every day. At both Easter and Summer clubs, we were visited by a representative from Healthy Heads Education who helped the children to learn about healthy eating and nutrition through games and hands on making healthy food.

We have been able to provide a signposting pack for each child to take home to their families to help them find local support organisations.

Every child received a Christmas gift and bag of goodies to take home after the party. During Easter, we were able to provide an Easter egg for every child who attended the Club. Summer fun concluded with a talent show and an outdoor water balloon challenge.

Everyone who attended the Clubs has enjoyed their experience and we receive positive feedback from the Children attending, the Parents we meet and from Fylde Council. As well as providing an enjoyable and enriching experience, the Holiday Club is raising awareness of Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre in the local area.

Thank you very much to everyone involved in delivering the HAF Programme Holiday Clubs.



## Hilda Siddoway





# DAD MATTERS PROGRAMME

We currently have partnerships with The Community Trust Fleetwood, Healthier Fleetwood, P.A.I.R.S, The Library Service, Better start, Healthier Minds, Baby Steps, Aiming Higher, the Neonatal unit and Maternity at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals, the Post Partum group, and the MVP.

Eric visits the hospital maternity unit every Wednesday and the Neo-Natal Unit on a Thursday, he also visits Brian's House Hospice and Thingamjigz in Poulton once a month for their baby clinics - all of which cover Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre.

He has recently networked at Dadscon 2023 at Brockholes Nature Reserve, Maternal Mental Health week, Infant Mental Health week, and Dads Mental Health week, at Blackpool Teaching Hospital. I run regular drop-ins in Blackpool and Fleetwood.

Eric has interacted with a number of dads face to face. He currently sees eight dads, most on a regular basis.

Since Eric started his role, he has done hundreds of outreach and networking meetings including some online meetings with Dad Matters wellbeing groups and various other organisations. He has introduced himself to many dads at the Blackpool Maternity unit as part of the outreach program since it launched on the 30th November 2022.

The Dad Matters Paediatric First Aid workshop will be rolled out nationally in 2023 2024. Eric will be the mentor and central information point to help the Dad Matters Coordinators with any problems that might arise.

This has been a successful start for our Dad Matters programme at Home-Start BFW, with Eric's referrals increasing - proving how much Dad Matters is needed.

2023 2024 will see a new Assistant Dad Matters Coordinator join Home-Start Blackpool Fylde and Wyre; a welcome addition to the team. This post will assist Eric to reach more dads across the Fylde coast. Eric has two dads in Wyre, and his working relationships are developing with Fleetwood Community Trust and Healthier Fleetwood.

Eric would like to thank you all for the opportunity to lead this valuable work and for the chance to move forward with it into the next year.



# A Home-Start Family Journey

## Family Journey

This family have been supported by Home-Start twice. Mum has suffered with mental health, and the second referral was from the Peri-natal mental health team. Mum and Dad have 6 children, the eldest being 15 years old and their youngest only 3 months.

One of the children has been diagnosed with additional needs, which requires a lot of work and understanding. Dad also works full time; therefore, Mum is often the one that carries out most of the parenting tasks. Mum had very little self-confidence in herself and has recently been diagnosed with ADHD. She has experienced a difficult and traumatic labour, which understandably made this recent pregnancy very stressful. When I first met Mum, she asked for support, identifying that she needed some emotional support and guidance, support to access groups and signposting to appropriate services. She was very isolated and was extremely anxious about leaving the home or attending any groups.

After careful matching, we identified a suitable volunteer who had her own lived experiences of having a child herself who had additional needs. The match visit took place and things looked positive.

After getting to know her volunteer, she told me that she was a breath of fresh air and that by talking with someone who could empathise with her was such a relief. Her support from the volunteer enabled Mum to grow in confidence, be open to try new ways of parenting and manage her emotions. With the encouragement from Home-Start Mum began attending the stay and playgroup where she made friends, and again this was something that she enjoys and very much looks forward to. Mum's progress was clear to see to the point where she no longer needed a home visiting volunteer, and she just continued to attend group every week. Here she still receives support and encouragement when she needs it, but the lovely thing to see is that she has become a confident lady who makes others feel welcome and not judged.

Below is what Mum had to say about the support she has received:

"Home-Start has provided me with a friendly ear and advice when needed. The staff have been there for me when I've struggled, and they've celebrated my success and achievements with me. I genuinely feel Home-Start staff care, they are always willing to listen, and they remember what we've discussed previously. They make me feel heard and supported.

Home-Start playgroup has allowed me to build my confidence to socialise with other parents and make some friends as well as helped improve my children's confidence and social skills. We look forward to attending each week."

## Family Journey

Family referred by school. The family consists of mum, dad and 4 children (3 boys and 1 girl). The children's ages range from 6 years to 12 years old with the 6-year-olds being twins.

Family referred to Home Start for support with managing behaviour, being more involved in the children's development, mental health issues (parents and children), mum's self-esteem and family finances/budgeting.

A suitable volunteer was matched with the family. Weekly visits were conducted over a four-month period. The volunteer during her visits helped to increase mum's confidence. The volunteer shared and model behavior strategies, which mum started to implement.

Information was shared with the family, which included services, which could support Dad's mental health.

Mum was empowered to make positive future plans for herself and her family.

Mum was spending quality time with her children 'play dates'

At this point it was recognized by both mum and the volunteer that it was the right time to close our support as mum was confident to continue to progress on her own, knowing she could refer back to us at any point.

# QUOTES FROM FAMILIES AND VOLUNTEERS



“Home-Start has provided me with a friendly ear and advice when needed. The staff have been there for me when I've struggled, and they've celebrated my success and achievements with me. I genuinely feel Home-Start staff care, they are always willing to listen and they remember what we've discussed previously. They make me feel heard and supported.

Home-Start playgroup has allowed me to build my confidence to socialise with other parents and make some friends as well as helped improve my children's confidence and social skills. We look forward to attending each week.”

Melissa Humphries – Volunteer

What has Home-Start given me as a volunteer?

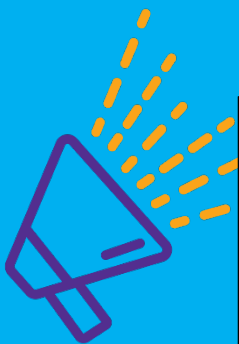
Life...

I was so scared and shy, so insecure when I started. It starts with helping others, but secretly, by working with families, in return I found myself becoming me.

I became someone I liked, and to be trusted by adults and children when they are not doing their best is just an honour you can't explain.

I didn't have a family I could reach out to, but volunteering gave me so much more than I ever knew it could. It gave me a family of friends, it helped me.

Home-Start and everybody involved don't just work with families, they empower volunteers like me to also believe in themselves and that is something I personally will forever be grateful for xx



## A message from our Senior Co-ordinator

“After 13 years of working with Home-Start, initially as one of the first volunteers when we started in 2010 and as Coordinator and Senior over the past 8 years it is with some regret, yet anticipation that I announce my retirement on 31st March. I have some great memories of the time I have spent with Home-Start and while most of them involve the fabulous group of people with whom I have worked, I must include our wonderful volunteers and the families I have helped to support.



# Our Volunteers

## And Their Training



who have completed their training and are now ready to support families in their home or support in groups.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS WHO COMPLETED THE PREP COURSE AND BIG HOPES BIG FUTURE TRAINING**



Lisa Fitsimmons

Kerry Cossens

Shauna Larkin

Lauren Johnson

Lauren Johnson

Matthew Bourne

Christine Wilson

Sharon Athay

Joe Abbott

They now ready to support families in their home or support in groups



Thank you to our Trustees. You do an amazing job in supporting Home-Start and the staff:

Carole

Peter

Liz

Kath

Angie

Denise

Karen

Glenys

Hilary

Viv

Adrian

Adrian

Revd. Damian

Paul





We would like to thank Diane one of our volunteers for hosting an afternoon tea event for our Volunteers week 2022 at the Almeria Hotel, Blackpool.

Thank you for your support and here are just a few photos from the day.



# Fundraising Shop 2022-2023

WOW.....Where has the last 12 months gone?  
It's not until we sit back and reflect do we realise how much we have done.  
How many families have we helped and supported?  
How many people have we met?  
How many donations have we received?  
How many hours do our volunteers give?  
How many tears both happy and sad, have we shed?



But on this reflection now is the ideal time to give many thanks to each and every one who has helped and supported our shop to get to where we are now.

Our shop is now in its 7th year as we continue to go from strength to strength. This certainly wouldn't have been possible without all of you!!

Our team of volunteers who give up numerous hours of their free time. That could be through sorting donations, pricing items, tidying the shop, serving customers, collecting donations, doing tip runs, supporting families and helping customers.

To all of our donors to the shop, we've had huge amounts that have helped raise funds.

To our customers in the shop, either new or regular, it doesn't matter how much you spend, every little helps.

To all the individuals and local businesses who contribute towards our tombola's, your continued support throughout the years means so much to us and we are truly grateful.

I will say again, we are not just a fundraising shop, we are a little community hub that loves what we do..... Could be just saying hello to a customer, supporting someone in need, or signposting. Some customers just pop in to say hello and others to give staff and volunteers gifts of appreciation, biscuits, cake, flowers, chocolates, drawings and colourings from children. The best of all is a simple thank you for all we do.

We have continued to support families with free school uniforms across Blackpool Fylde and Wyre. This helped over 250 families last year. Due to the significant increase in families' needs we also had the support from The Waters Edge Pub who sorted and donated uniforms. We will continue with free uniforms in the future. This is not just for people on low income, it's for anybody who needs a little extra support.

Coming up to the colder weather and the winter coat appeal we were able to give families, both adults and children, warm coats and hats. They were all so grateful but also heart-warming to us being able to help them.

During this last year we had also received donations of nappies, Easter eggs, Selection boxes, tubs of sweets, Christmas hampers made by customers all donated to families.

Staff, trustees and volunteers also gave up time to support our tombolas at the Christmas light switch on and at St Annes carnival.

We also managed to fit in an Afternoon tea with the volunteers at Christmas which they all thoroughly enjoyed.

So a huge thanks from us all for your continued support

Sue and the Shop Team

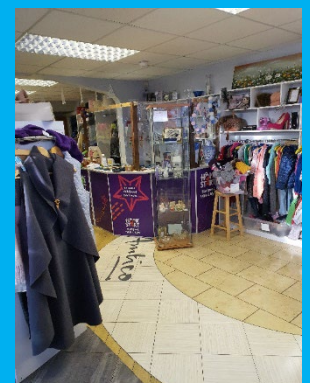
If you would like to volunteer in the shop please call

Sue Uttley – Shop Manager on 07827 876066

## Opening hours

Monday to Friday

10.00am – 4.00pm <sup>3</sup>

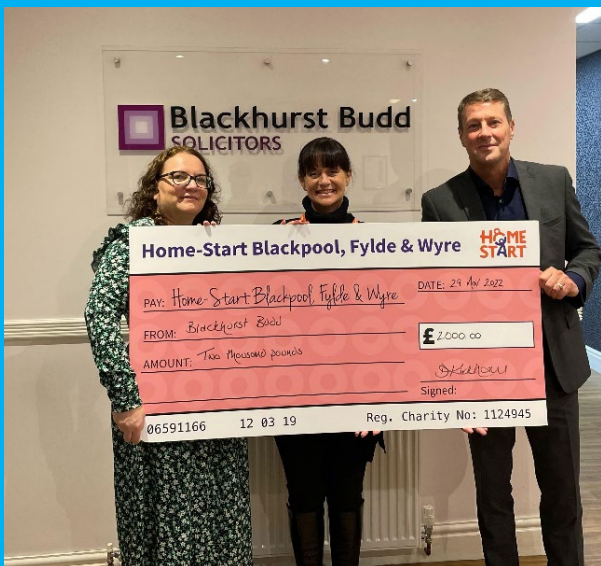




# Cheque presentations Thanks Dona Kirkham!

On behalf of the Staff and Trustees of Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre

Being a parent has never been easy. It can be lonely, frustrating, heart breaking and overwhelming. All parents struggle at one time or another. For some, the challenges can be too much to bear. We work with parents to build on their strengths, give them the support that they tell us that they need and leave them with a feeling of empowerment.



**Dawn Attewell**  
(Aesthetic Nurse Practitioner & founder of Dawn Attewell Aesthetics at Lytham St Annes' Therapy House) has pledged to support a local family struggling with the cost of living for the next 12 months; as part of her ongoing work with the charity Home-Start (homestartbfw.org.uk)

**DAWN ATTEWELL, OWNER OF THERAPY HOUSE IN LYTHAM ST ANNE'S, SUPPORTS A LOCAL FAMILY WITH THE COST OF LIVING FOR THE NEXT YEAR WITH HOME-START BLACKPOOL, FYLDE & WYRE**

**DAWN ATTEWELL**  
AESTHETICS



# Corporate and Community Fundraising Events

Building relationships is an essential element of the fundraising role. Building awareness of the wonderful work that we do we foresee to be a key part of our role.

Over the last 12 months

Charity fundraising events organised by  
 Cllr Karen Henshaw  
 Charity Fashion show  
 Christmas Carol Raffle  
 Baubles, Bangles & Beads  
 with Clayton Jewellers



## Coral Island Collection



## Hole in Wand







## Two Ball Banger Rally Adrian & Alex Williams



## Easter 2022

Thank you everyone for supporting our families by donating an Easter egg. Every child we support received one.

Hungry Monkey  
Carly Earley – BAE  
Bonny Fabrics  
BT Openreach

Julie and John Webb – The White Church  
Marie Hawkins – BAE  
Adcroft Hilton  
Business First Clients





# What an amazing bunch of people who Walked The Big One for our charity

Pat Naylor  
Carly Earley  
Sukie Woodhouse  
Stephanie Cartmell  
Viv Hamilton  
Andrew Kirkham  
Adrian May  
Jon Doyle  
Tracy Kirkland  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Gina McDonald  
Aimi O'Donnell  
Jennifer Maudsley  
Claire Ashcroft  
Stuart Harrison  
Pat Sharples  
Andrew Barnes  
Daniel Elliott  
Linda Adams  
Ross Adams





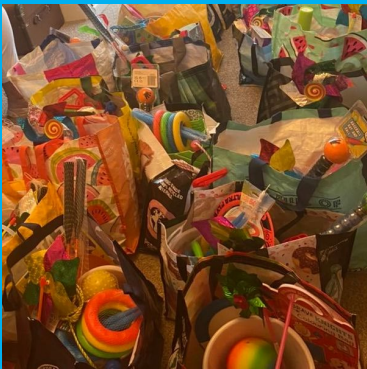
# Another fab event a Tandem Parachute with the Black Knights at Cockerham

Timothy  
Jordan  
Jon  
Elizabeth

Walton  
Conlin  
Doyle  
McQuillan



## Totally Rotary gave us summer activities for the families 2022



## Thornton and St Annes Gala 2022





# Group Christmas Party 2022



**Bispham Junior  
Football Club**



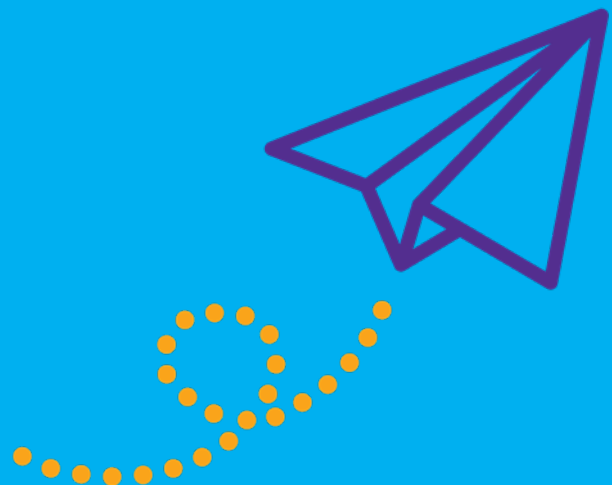
**Norcross  
Cricket Club**



**Pure Energy**



**Family day out to Knowsley Safari Park – sponsored by  
Lytham Community Benefit Society, Ltd**





# Acknowledgements

## Thank you for your support

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Thank you for all your support to Home-Start, it makes such a difference. For our donations, fundraising, giving your time and expertise, we are truly thankful.

You have contributed to supporting over 237 families and 427 children.

This year, our coordinators and volunteers were able support families face to face in their home. Our families have told us that support from Home-Start has been invaluable.

There have been some difficult times, especially with the electricity and food crises at Christmas, and Home-Start has been overwhelmed with the generosity of people like yourselves. Your donations enabled us to give our families something special at Christmas.

All our families received presents, selection boxes, and some food hampers.

Adrian Williams

Alexandria Drive Chip Shop

Amanda - Bonny Fabrics

Andy Haines - BT Openreach

Anna Blackburn

Arnold Clark

B Parkinson

Baines Masonic Lodge

Beaverbrooks

Blackhurst & Budd

Blackpool essentials fund

Carly Earley and Marie Hawkins, Air Service - Sports & Social Club

Cllr Karen Henshaw

Community Funding

D Harrison

D Reeh

David Elliott

Dawn Attwell - Therapy House

E Williamson

F Boyce

Fleetwood Methodist Church

Fylde essential fund

Groundwork UK

Holy Trinity Church Freckleton

Homes for Ukraine - Blackpool Council

Hungry Monkey

John Turner

Julie and John Webb - The White Church

Just Giving

Kath Asquith

Kinndertons

Links View Retirement Community

Lytham Community Benefit Society, Ltd

Malcolm Asquith

Minter Carwash

Mirrie Dancer

Mr & Mrs Harrison

Mrs Parkinson

Pat Naylor

Phil Hargreaves

Rose Spencer

Ross - Fylde BC ITC Breaking Ross

Rossall Rose Society

Sheryl Armour - Adcroft House

Slimming World (Jason)

St Annes Mayor

The DJ Sidebottom/Glasdon Charitable Programme

Toni Consulting

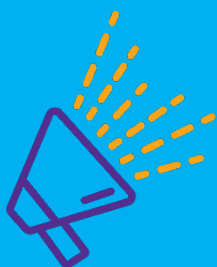
Tony Ford

Totally Rotary FY8

Unite The Union -Fylde Coast Branch

Woodhouse Opticians

Wyre Community Lottery



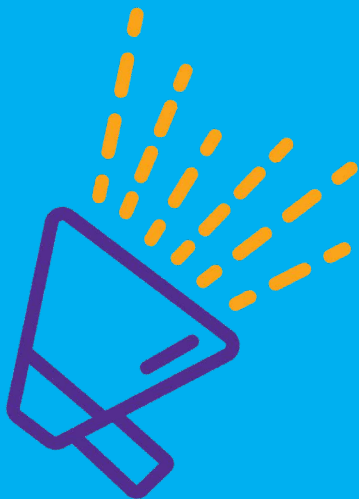
# Investing in Volunteers

Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre are so proud to have achieved the Investing in Volunteers award for good practice in volunteer management!

This prestigious award was given by the United Kingdom Volunteering Forum (UKVF) from July 2020 until July 2023. The UKVF assessment process confirmed that our volunteers feel recognised and are proud to be part of our team supporting families in Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre.

Our volunteers at Home-Start go above and beyond for our families.

We understand how important it is that our volunteers are given the right support and we are delighted to have achieved the Investing in Volunteers Award.



# There are many ways to support Home-Start



**Have a chance of winning £25,000 every week, for just £1 per week!**

By playing our lottery you are helping us and the Home-Start Network give thousands of families the lifeline they need. Find out more at

[www.home-start.org.uk/unity-lottery](http://www.home-start.org.uk/unity-lottery) or email [enquiries@homestartbfw.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@homestartbfw.org.uk)



**For just £1 per ticket you can win while supporting Home-Start!**

You can help us to continue helping parents by joining the Lottery and signing up to support Home-Start. At the same time you have a chance to win!

Buy your ticket and support us at

[www.wyrelottery.co.uk/support/home-start-blackpool-fylde-and-wyre](http://www.wyrelottery.co.uk/support/home-start-blackpool-fylde-and-wyre)

## JustGiving™

**Or you can donate direct to us to help!**

To help us continue supporting local families to give children the best start in life you can donate direct to our Just Giving Page.

[www.justgiving.com/homestart-blackpool-fylde-wyre](http://www.justgiving.com/homestart-blackpool-fylde-wyre)



**Help us as you shop!**

If you would like to support us while you shop you can support us through easyfundraising

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>



# PROVIDING EXCELLENT QUALITY

## Quality Assurance System

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Home-Start's Quality Assurance System for local Home-Starts is based on a programme of self-assessment against set Quality Standards and a process that focuses on the ongoing development and continuous improvement of all practice areas relating to the governance, management and service delivery of local Home-Starts.

Working with Charities Evaluation Services (CES) the bespoke Home-Start quality assurance system was introduced in 2006. It incorporates the elements of PQASSO (CES's quality assurance system for small organisations and recognised as the industry standard in the voluntary sector). The system has also been designed to include and reflect the requirements of Investors in People, The Charity Commission and other national quality and occupational standards.

We work to a common set of standards and methods of practice and have detailed guidance on all aspects of providing the Home-Start service. All Home-Start staff, trustees and volunteers receive thorough induction and on-going training opportunities.

Before supporting families, all volunteers attend a comprehensive Preparation Course.

The Home-Start Agreement is the foundation of the Home-Start Quality Assurance system. The Agreement is signed by each Local Home-Start and Home-Start UK who in doing so agree to certain Quality Standards and to take part in the monitoring and review process. Should a problem arise within the terms of the Home-Start Agreement, there is a Problem Solving and Complaints Procedure.

This robust system is based on 4 quality areas. Local Home-Starts carry out ongoing self-assessments to ensure continuous improvement and are externally reviewed on a 4-5 year rolling programme by the QA Team from Home-Start UK.

### The 4 Quality Standards

1. Governance
2. People Management
3. Managing information and
4. Safeguarding/Child Protection







Thank you for supporting us with funding



Arnold Clark Community Fund

Eric Wright

Tudor Trust

Lytham Schools Foundation

Lottery

Groundwork - One Stop Funding

Community Funding

Fylde Household Support Fund

Blackpool Council Community Grants Programme

Spring North



Army Central Fund





## **Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre**

### **Reference and Administrative Information**

#### **Registered Charity Name**

Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre

#### **Charity Registration Number**

1124945

#### **Company Registration number**

06591166

#### **Registered Office and Operational Address**

Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre

Blackpool First Business Centre, Lancaster House, Amy Johnson Way Blackpool, FY4 2RP

#### **Fundraising Shop address**

Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Fundraising Shop, 135 St Albans Road, Lytham St Annes, FY8 1UY

#### **Patrons**

Mark Menzies Member of Parliament for Fylde

Cllr Karen Henshaw

Mr Rod Boyce

#### **Board of Trustees**

Carole Harrison (Chair)

Peter Law Jones (Vice Chair)

Karen Eaton (Treasurer)

Denise Taylor (Secretary)

Kath Asquith

Glenys Markland

Cllr Vivienne Willder

Angie Walsh (OBE)

Revd. Damian Platt

Hilary Wilkinson

Paul Aisthorpe

Liz Petch

Adrian May

Adrian Williams

#### **Auditors & Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor**

Rawcliffes. 39 Red Bank Road, Blackpool FY2 9HZ

#### **Bankers**

CAF Banking

#### **Governing document**

The Charity is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association.



## Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre

Thank you for reading the  
Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre  
Annual Report 2022 - 2023

Tel: 01253 728 615

Email: [enquiries@homestartbfw.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@homestartbfw.org.uk)

Visit: [www.homestartbfw.org.uk](http://www.homestartbfw.org.uk)



[@homestartblackpoolfyldewyre](https://www.facebook.com/homestartblackpoolfyldewyre)



[@HomeStartBFW](https://twitter.com/HomeStartBFW)



[@HomeStartBFW](https://www.instagram.com/HomeStartBFW)

**90% of volunteers feel they make a difference through their volunteering**

“The Volunteer Prep course was very informative, excellent and much needed to have the necessary awareness about family issues for when we start volunteering. Personally I am looking forward to starting” .  
Sedi, Volunteer

**Improved Mental Health & Wellbeing**  
Being fully supported and valued in your volunteering role Helping families and meeting new people

**Volunteering...  
What's in it for me?**

Volunteers tell us they want to feel they belong to a team, it helps them feel less isolated.



**More Confidence**  
A greater sense of purpose  
Friendship

Knowing that my life experiences can help others  
A feeling of belonging  
Giving back to my community

**Fun**  
Laughter  
Coffee & Cake

