

Style Acre



Empowering people to live the life they choose

Our Impact 2025/26



styleacre.org.uk

Our impact at a glance

273 people supported to live the life they choose



114

people supported in 39 supported living houses



177

connected through 3 community hubs



34

people supported to live independently in the community



137

people working or volunteering



47

gardeners supported through our garden project



5

Social enterprises offering work opportunities



409

employees



60

volunteers



30 years of choice, connection and opportunity

This year, Style Acre celebrated 30 years of supporting people with learning disabilities and/or autism to live the life they choose.

Across Oxfordshire, our teams, volunteers, families, partners and supporters helped people to build confidence, develop skills, make friends, stay healthy, connect with their communities and become more independent.

Our impact is about more than numbers.
It is about people:

- ✓ Gaining the confidence to travel independently
- ✓ Making a new friend
- ✓ Discovering a talent.
- ✓ Moving into a home and feeling safe and valued
- ✓ Getting a first job, and discovering what you can achieve

It is also about having people around you who listen, believe in you and help you make your own choices.

This is what it means to live the life you choose



Why our work matters

People with learning disabilities and/or autism can face barriers to health, employment, community participation and social connection.

Too often, opportunities that many people take for granted are not equally accessible. Our role is to challenge those barriers. We provide specialist support, accessible resources, inclusive activities and opportunities that enable people to participate, contribute and achieve their ambitions.

We don't simply provide support for today. We help develop skills and create opportunities for a better future.

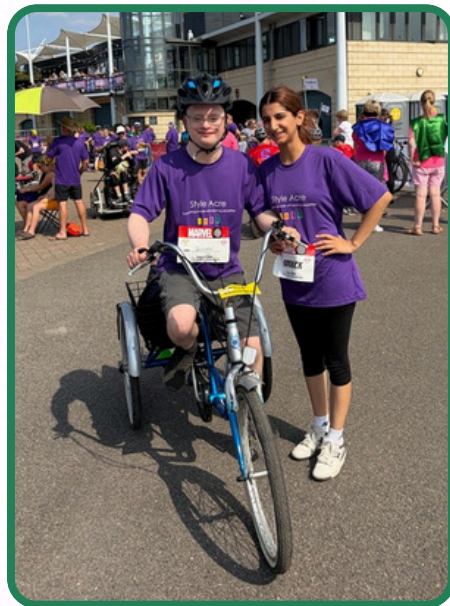
A future where people are:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| ✓ Healthy | ✓ Included |
| ✓ Connected | ✓ Valued |
| ✓ Independent | ✓ Free to choose |



2025/26 marked 30 years of Style Acre. Three decades of people, families, employees, volunteers, supporters and partners working together to create more opportunities for people with learning disabilities and/or autism.

Our anniversary was not simply an opportunity to look back. It was an opportunity to recognise how far people have come, and to look ahead to what is possible next.



What difference did our support make?

Our support is person-centred. We listen to what matters to each person, understand their goals and provide the right support to help them achieve those goals.

During 2025/26, people at our community hubs told us that our support helped them to feel **connected, safe, confident and less lonely**.



100%

said they get to spend time with friends



89%

said they can learn or try new things



95%

said they had someone to talk to



99%

said they feel safe



85%

said they feel less lonely

“ I like the fact that if you need it there is good support there always.”



4.6 / 5

average family survey rating across health and wellbeing, staying safe, how people spend their time and developing independence and new skills.

“ A lovely culture of acceptance and kindness and positivity to all.”

Our impact



1 - Live well at home

Supporting people to have a home of their own, make everyday choices and live as independently as possible.



2 - Move, grow, nourish and connect

Creating opportunities for friendship, activity, wellbeing, learning and belonging at our community hubs.



3 - Developing skills and finding opportunities

Helping people build confidence and skills through work, volunteering, gardening and our social enterprises.



4 - Being part of community life

Working with local organisations, volunteers, businesses, funders and community groups to create more inclusive communities.



1- Live well at home

A home is more than a place to live

People are supported to make everyday choices, from what to eat and how to spend their time, to where they want to go, who they want to see and what they want to achieve.

Support can include help with cooking, cleaning, managing health and wellbeing, attending appointments, exercising, pursuing hobbies, socialising, working and volunteering.



Friendship, interests and independence



Happily sharing their home since 2014, our Wantage housemates spend time together going to the pub, singing karaoke, walking, sharing meals and enjoying their garden.

They also get involved with their local community through work and volunteering, including at Wantage Market Garden.

Home is a place where friendships, interests, contribution and independence have grown.



2 - Move, grow nourish and connect

Our three community hubs in Wallingford, Didcot and Banbury are welcoming spaces where people can meet friends, develop skills, try new activities and be part of a community.

During the year, 177 people connected with their peers through our hubs. Activities included arts, sport, cooking, gardening, day trips, fitness, music, dance and social events. People access one-to-one or group support.



“ I like all the groups and it helps with my depression and anxiety and gets me out of the house. ”

Creating opportunities for everyone

Our Ways to Wellness programme offers accessible activities and resources to support physical and mental wellbeing.

This year, people at Style Acre contributed to the Together in Textiles project to create a wall hanging to celebrate our 30th anniversary.



We also introduced POP (Pathways of Possibility) sensory sessions for people with more complex needs, using music, sounds, lights, movement and touch to support communication, connection and engagement.



Walking the Ridgeway

During our 30th year, people we support, staff and supporters took on a challenge to walk the Ridgeway. For some participants, the achievement was physical. For others, it was social. For many, it was both.

People encouraged each other, built friendships, became fitter and experienced a part of their local area together. The challenge showed what can happen when people are supported to try something they may not have believed was possible.

3 - Skills, work and opportunity

Having a job, volunteering and developing skills can transform how someone sees themselves. Our Work Programme, Garden Project and social enterprises create opportunities for people to learn, gain experience and contribute.

During 2025/26:

137 people accessed paid or voluntary work opportunities

50% of the people we support worked or volunteered

100% of Work Programme survey respondents said their work helped them feel more confident

98% said they felt more independent and had learned new skills

Our five social enterprises provide practical, inclusive work environments where people can develop skills in areas including catering, hospitality, retail, customer service, gardening and production.

Tea Room employment success

Rob began working with an Employment Support Worker at the Tea Room for three hours a week. He wanted to develop his catering and customer service skills.

Over time, Rob learned to operate the barista machine, prepare drinks, serve customers, handle payments, cook breakfasts and prepare food to order. He also achieved his Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate.

Most importantly, his confidence and independence grew and Rob progressed into paid employment at the Tea Room.

When asked about what jobs he does, he said:

“ Taking food over to customers tables. I get a bit nervous on the till but I do it. I need some help to count change when people give me cash but card payments are easy. I like this job. I love it and try not to miss it unless I am on holiday. ”



4 - Community life getting involved

People we support are active members of their local communities. During the year, people worked, volunteered, attended events, raised funds and supported local organisations.

People helped marshal the Thames Run, joined litter-picking activities and supported community events including the Wallingford Santa Dash, RokeFest and Truck Festival and our own events, including a Barn Dance, 30th Celebration Ball, Big Picnic, Christmas parties and many more.

60 volunteers gave their time to support our hubs and social enterprises. Their contribution adds skills and energy to everything we do.



Great teamwork

In 2025, our Work Programme helped establish a new group placement at a Dementia UK charity Shop.

After weeks of training, the shop manager recognised the team's growing confidence and offered them additional responsibility. The team were trusted with keys and the responsibility for opening the shop.

The team developed till and customer service skills, became more independent and took on an active role within their local community.



“ I like working in the charity shop as I enjoy seeing the customers. I love helping and serving the customers and using the till. I like the fact that my work helps raise money for the charity who people who have dementia, it makes me proud. ”

Trust created opportunity → Opportunity created confidence → Confidence created independence

People shaping the support they receive

People we support are not simply recipients of our services, they help shape them. We listen through everyday conversations, feedback surveys and our Have a Say forums.

People we support

- ✓ give direct feedback to the Style Ace Board through Have a Say forums
- ✓ work and volunteer across our offices, hubs and social enterprises
- ✓ advise Trustees through a Board Advisor role
- ✓ act as Ambassadors for the charity
- ✓ contribute to event and project committees
- ✓ take part in recruitment
- ✓ visit supported living houses as Quality Experts

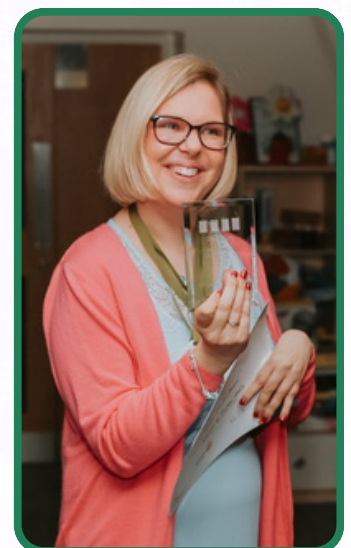
People know what matters to them. Our role is to listen, support and create the opportunities for people to fulfil their potential.

A remarkable year for Lydia

Lydia won Achiever of the Year at the Banbury Hub Awards and gained independence travelling to church, the hairdresser, work and fitness sessions. She helped rewrite Style Ace's Complaints Procedure and Health & Safety paperwork and delivered a presentation to managers. Alongside this, she held two work placements, including a role with our medal-making social enterprise and a placement with Contact Web.

Her workplace described her as:

“always positive, eager to learn and full of energy.”



The next chapter looking ahead 2026/27

Our mission remains clear:
to increase opportunities for people to live the
life they choose.

In the year ahead, we will focus on:



More independence

Supporting people to develop skills,
make choices and have greater control
over their lives.



More opportunity

Expanding pathways into work,
volunteering, learning and community
participation.



Better wellbeing

Developing inclusive opportunities that
support physical and mental health.



Stronger communities

Working with local organisations,
businesses, funders and volunteers to
create more inclusive places.



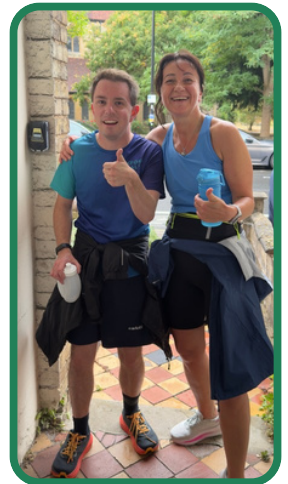
Listening and working together

Ensuring the voices of people we support
continue to influence our services and
decisions.



Sustainable support

Securing the funding and partnerships
needed to make these ambitions
possible.



A message from Our CEO and Chair of Trustees



It has been fantastic to look back at the amazing achievements of the past year. The challenges that people overcame and the goals they achieved, all of which have been made possible with fantastic person-centred support.

This year was also a chance to look back over the 30 years of Style Acre and

understand the huge impact the charity has had on people's lives. It was wonderful to reflect on the journey we have been on and it's reassuring to be able to say that whilst we have grown, we have remained true to our Values, Mission, and Vision along the way.

Style Acre is all about people; the people we support are the reason our charity exists. By providing the best support, we can enable them to live the lives they choose. But it is also about the amazing people we employ past and present who have contributed to Style Acre over the past 30 years. There are also the volunteers, including our Trustees, who give up their time and make such a difference to the work we do and the families who are such an important part of our team and who play such a key role in our success. Finally, there are all the people, companies, charities, community groups, and friends that support our work. We are so grateful for all their contributions and commitment. The past 30 years would not have been possible without them.

The coming year is full of exciting opportunities but it will also have its challenges. Social Care funding in this country is still an issue that needs to be resolved. We await the outcome of the Casey Review and other government initiatives with great anticipation. Whatever happens though, we know that with the people and support we have we can continue to make a huge impact upon the lives of people with learning disabilities and autism across Oxfordshire.



Chris Ingram, CEO and Ian Boulton, Chair of Trustees



Help us create more opportunities

Our additional programmes rely heavily on grants and donations.

We need to raise around £350,000 each year to fund the work that sits beyond core support.

Please visit our website to read more stories and see the difference your support can make.

Your support can help someone:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| ✓ gain a skill | ✓ become more independent |
| ✓ make a friend | ✓ feel less lonely |
| ✓ find a job | ✓ take part |
| ✓ discover a passion | ✓ belong |

Click here to Donate Today!

Your donation will help fund programmes, equipment, activities and opportunities that would otherwise not be possible.

VOLUNTEER

Give your time at our hubs, Tea Room, charity shop, gardens or events, and share your skills while making a difference.

BUSINESSES

Choose Style Acre as your charity of the year, event partner or employee volunteering partner.

PARTNER WITH US

Work with us through our Work Programme, Garden Project or Ways to Wellness programmes.

WORK WITH US

Join our team committed to helping people live the life they choose and make a difference every day.

For more information on how to get involved please e-mail: community@styleacre.org.uk

What your support made possible in 2025/26

- ✓ Work Programme
- ✓ Garden Project
- ✓ POP sensory sessions
- ✓ Seated exercise
- ✓ Connect & Create
- ✓ Boxing sessions
- ✓ Together in Textile
- ✓ Vehicles
- ✓ Turnstyle Music
- ✓ Cycling facilities at the Tea Room

MONEY MATTERS 2025/26

Income	£13,522,698
Expenditure	£13,538,162
Gains on Investment	£19,965
Surplus	£4,501
Reserves	£2,742,885

[Click here to view the full audited annual accounts](#)

Our impact is only possible because of the support we receive. A big thank you to:

The people we support, whose ambition, courage and ideas shape our work.

Families, who share their trust, insight and experience.

The people we employ, who provide compassionate, skilled and person-centred support every day.

Our volunteers, who give their time and energy.

Our supporters, funders and donors, whose generosity make opportunities possible.

Our community partners and businesses, who help create inclusive opportunities; and everyone who has supported Style Ace over the past 30 years.



Together, we make a difference

Style Acre

Supporting people with learning disabilities



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Together in Textile - Celebrating 30 years



Registered Charity No: 1101626