



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **Period start date** **01/09/23** **Period end date 31/08/24**

Charity name: Cambridge Russian School

Charity registration number: 1121075

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To advance public education in the Russian language and culture.• To support the education of pupils at Cambridge Russian School by providing, or assisting in the provision of, educational facilities and resources.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Summary of the Main Activities</p> <p>The academic year 2023–2024 was a highly successful and eventful year for Cambridge Russian School, marking our 25th anniversary as one of the oldest Russian schools in the UK.</p> <p>Our students achieved outstanding academic results, particularly in the Russian GCSE exams, with three pupils earning Grade 8 and twelve achieving the highest Grade 9.</p> <p>Throughout the year, the school continued to offer a broad and enriching curriculum. This included academic subjects such as Russian language and literature, GCSE and A-level preparation, as well as vocational and creative classes in programming, robotics, drama, piano, art, chess, and Russian language for adults.</p> <p>We also provided Ukrainian language classes for children who have recently arrived in the UK.</p> <p>The school operated smoothly and efficiently thanks to the dedication of our administrative team, led by Director Jelena Carter and Senior Administrator Marina Olefir, supported by our committed duty team. Trustees and administrators held a total of 11 meetings (6 online and 5 in person) to oversee governance and strategic planning.</p> <p>Key highlights of the year included:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2023: Launch of the school year and 25th anniversary celebrations at Long Road Sixth Form College. • September–October: Welcome presentations for new parents and an online orientation session. • October: Halloween celebration for children. • November: Outdoor art lessons with teacher Valentin Rusinov and the annual “Russian Bear Cub” writing competition for bilingual students. • December: A festive Christmas and New Year celebration featuring performances, crafts, and a visit from Father Frost. • January 2024: A financial literacy project for children and a visit from the children’s theatre group “Amethysts,” who performed two shows. • Spring Term: Introduction of new drama and art classes. • February: A school-organised educational trip to London, where students visited the Science Museum, Natural History Museum, and the V&A Museum. • March: Maslenitsa celebration with traditional folk games, music, and food. • May: 25th anniversary celebration of the school’s founding. • End of May: A summer camp for children. • July 2024: End-of-year celebration, including a graduation ceremony for GCSE and A-level students, a school-wide barbecue hosted by the trustees, and the traditional gift of a book for every student. <p>These activities reflect our commitment to delivering a high-quality, culturally rich education and fostering a strong sense of community among our students, families, and staff.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambridge Russian School operates as a not-for-profit organisation, committed to making education accessible and affordable for all families. For many years, we have worked diligently to keep tuition fees as low as possible, ensuring that financial constraints do not become a barrier to participation. • To support families facing financial hardship, we offer flexible payment

		<p>options, including instalment plans and partial bursaries. In response to the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, we have also provided deferred payment arrangements and partial refunds for families most affected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additionally, we offer discounts and subsidies to Ukrainian families and to members of our teaching staff, further reinforcing our commitment to inclusivity and community support.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	We offer one free lesson a week to children of Ukrainian refugees and discounts to children of our teachers.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	None
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	We have a team of dedicated parent volunteers who support events taking place at the school
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Despite the challenges posed by the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, the school achieved a strong and stable financial outcome this year, reflecting prudent management and the continued support of our community.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Any income from fundraising was used towards paying for the free lessons for Ukrainian children
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	All surplus funds are kept in flexible savings accounts, which resulted in significant interest income in the year due to increase in the interest rates.
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	A healthy surplus was achieved in the year, allowing the charity to raise the reserve to shield against any potential rent increases.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held in order to shield against unexpected rent increases or change in VAT status of the school providing premises for the school
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£20,000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The charity's primary source of income is the school fees paid by parents. Our main areas of expenditure include payments to freelance teaching and administrative staff, as well as the rental costs for our premises.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Elected by members

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Cambridge Russian School
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1121075
Charity's principal address	

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Aleksei Komarov	Chair		
2	Suzy Brandes	Treasurer		
3	Artem Babayan			
4	Svetlana Shmeleva		From 10/03/2024	
5	Artem Blagodarenko		From 20/11/2023	
6	Andrei Bejan			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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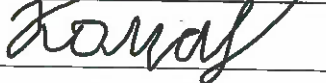

Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Mr Aleksei Komarov	Mrs Suzy Brandes
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of the Trustee Board	Treasurer
Date	30/06/25	

Profit and Loss comparatives

Cambridge Russian School P&L 2023-2024		
Course fees and sundry		111,547.47
Donations/fundraising		
Traders fees, tea/coffee		1,956.46
Interest		889.73
Total income		114,393.66
Salaries	-	66,696.46
Admin salaries	-	15,352.72
Rent	-	16,446.00
Travel expenses	-	725.50
Print and Photocopy	-	1,300.84
Teaching materials	-	89.53
School events	-	2,067.09
Gifts for teachers	-	207.07
Admin expenses	-	301.16
Insurance	-	323.78
Refunds	-	301.00
Gifts for students	-	1,186.26
Exams	-	240.00
Total expenditure	-	105,237.41
Profit/(loss) for the year		9,156.25



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

Cambridge Russian School

On accounts for the year
ended

2023-2024

Charity no
(if any)

1121075

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Elena

Date:

30/06/2025

Name:

Elena Teblyashkina

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

AAT Level 3

Address:

42 Berrington Grove
Milton Keynes
MK4 4FB