

VEDANTA BIDYASHRAM (CHARITY NO: 1123282)

“PROVIDING EDUCATION TO INDIA’S POOREST CHILDREN”

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Principal Office 36 Newick Avenue, Little Aston, Birmingham B74 3DA

Trustees Chairman - Dr Sujan Kumar Kundu MB BS
Secretary - Dr Nilanjana Banerji BA (Cal), MA (Oxon), DPhil (Oxon)
Treasurer - Mr Sudipta Basudev Kundu MA (Cantab), FCA, CTA

Constitution Governed by Trust Deed dated 24 February 2008

Objectives and activities

The trustees must apply the income of the charity in furthering the following objects:

1. To advance primary education for under-privileged children including establishing, promoting, assisting and maintaining primary schools and libraries for this purpose; to establish and / or to provide funding for these children to undertake further education, to the extent that they are able to progress to more advanced stages of their education;
2. To advance the education and training of secondary school age children;
3. To relieve sickness and promote and protect good health by the provision of medical treatment or assistance in obtaining medical treatment;
4. To provide relief of need and suffering among victims of natural or other kinds of disaster in the form of money (or other means deemed suitable) for persons, bodies, organisations and/or countries affected as the trustees shall think fit.

Achievements and performance

Vedanta Bidyashram (‘VB’ or ‘the Charity’), which loosely translated means “a place of learning at the feet of the master”, was granted charitable status by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 20 March 2008.

During the accounting period to 31 March 2022 (‘2022’), the main focus of the Charity’s work remains the primary school in Serampore a relatively small city (by Indian standards) with a population of circa 200,000 which is situated some 20 km north of Kolkata, on the west bank of the Hooghly River. The Trustees continued to obtain support from an Advisory Committee based in Kolkata, India, which provides its services free to VB. Through this advisory committee, projects and detailed funding requests are brought to the attention of the Trustees for their consideration and approval and this local team provides the necessary leadership and management ‘on the ground’ in India. Dr S K Kundu spent approximately 5 months of the year in India, overseeing the implementation of the schools’ development programmes.

The Trustees would like to thank Dr Nilanjana Banerji for her role as the Charity Secretary, which she has undertaken since the foundation of the Charity in 2008, and which she is stepping down from at the end of this financial year.

Financial review

Source of funds

During the period under review, VB managed to fund its activities through investment returns of £34.5k.

Application of funds

It applied these monies to support the primary school in Serampore via Dr S K Kundu both in providing the funding for the teachers' salaries and the substantial completion of the development of the school building to allow expansion of the activities there.

Closing financial position at year end

At year end, the Charity had an 'unrestricted' surplus available for its work of £105.9k comprising cash at bank of £0.5k and monies invested in liquid investments (primarily UK shares) of £132.9k with accrued costs, borne by the Chairman of circa £27.5k (and a further £100 of initial Trust Capital).

As the Charity currently obtains all services (advisory committee, trustees etc) free of charge, it does not currently incur any administration costs and therefore does not specifically seek to maintain a minimum level of reserves, other than the initial £100 Trust Capital provided on the establishment of the Trust.

Public benefit statement

Throughout the period under review, the Charity's trustees have sought to comply with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties (and in particular the guidance for charities working internationally).

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Mr Sudipta Kundu

Treasurer

Vedanta Bidyashram

Accounts for Year Ended 31 March 2022

Income & Expenditure

31-Mar-22

£

Income

Donations	0
Investment returns	34,538
Tax reclaim from HMRC in period	0

Expenditure

Expenditure relating to West Bengal schools	(27,500)
Other expenditure	(15)

Net income / (loss)	<u><u>7,023</u></u>
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Balance sheet

31-Mar-21

31-Mar-22

Change in
Net Assets

£

£

£

Cash at bank	325	485	
Killik Investment Funds	98,526	132,889	
Creditors / accruals	0	(27,500)	
Total net assets	<u><u>98,851</u></u>	<u><u>105,874</u></u>	<u><u>7,023</u></u>

	£	£	
Charity initial capital	100	100	
Unrestricted funds	98,751	105,774	
	<u><u>98,851</u></u>	<u><u>105,874</u></u>	

Independent examiner's report on the accounts



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
VEDANTA BIDYASHRAM

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 MARCH 2022

**Charity no
(if any)** 1123282

**Respective responsibilities
of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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

1. 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 Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date: 01/02/2023

Name:

Rudy Sargo

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body:**

SAICA (membership # 04910029)

Address:

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London

NW3 6RA