

The Vinjeru School Trust - Charity No: 1135234

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the period ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present their annual report and the independently examined accounts for the twelve months ending 31 December 2023.

Name and principal address

The name of the charity is The Vinjeru School Trust and the principal address is 17 Sayer Way, Knebworth, Herts SG3 6BN.

Trustees

The trustees who served during the period were:

Ross Power – Chairman
Roberta Power – Secretary
Martin Hodder
Gillian Hodder
Joel Haris - Treasurer
Hannah Haris

Objectives

The objectives of the Trust are:

- To raise funds for the building and establishment of a school based on Christian principles in the town of Kapiri Mposhi, Zambia.
- To provide education and bring hope to the underprivileged children in Kapiri Mposhi who would otherwise not be able to afford education.
- To raise funds to operate an effective bursary scheme to enable a quarter of the students to have a reduced fee or a free place.

The School is accessible to all, regardless of race, religion or gender. The school endeavours to provide quality, holistic education which will be of benefit to the students and to the wider community in the area around Kapiri Mposhi and, since the opening of the boarding facilities, the whole of Zambia.

Review of Activities

Trustees Visit to School Site

With the government lifting restrictions in place due to the outbreak of the pandemic in the prior years, two of the trustees (the Chairman and Secretary) had the privilege of visiting the School in May 2023, and were impressed with the condition of the site. The buildings were in good condition and the grounds were well cared for, with fencing and walls providing effective protection from intruders.

Building

Building was completed for the new DT block, which was started in the previous year and is well on the way to being completed. It is planned for the dividers to be heavy curtains, which will be fitted to help split up the space but to also allow for flexibility in the use of the space for larger assemblies and will also serve to deaden the noise between the sections.

The boys' dormitory block, for which building commenced in the previous year, has been built up to roof level as at the end of the year. Further funds were committed to the project in December 2023 to complete the building, with completion anticipated before the commencement of the new school year.

A new piece of land has been acquired next door to the existing land, which will house new Primary School buildings and a sports field. The land was kindly donated to the school, for which the trustees are truly grateful. It is anticipated that building work towards the new Primary School building will commence in autumn 2024.

A new Basketball / Netball court was built during the year on part of the land acquired. The court is used daily by students and has also hosted four fixtures against other schools during the year. It is anticipated that future work will look to add additional courts on the same piece of land, which would allow the school to host tournaments.

School Life and Examinations

The trustees' visit in May 2023 offered the opportunity to see the school in operation. The trustees were encouraged to observe the good interaction between staff and pupils, as well as the good attitude and respect shown to each other.

The results from the senior school students were once again strong, with another 100% pass rate achieved this year. The school aims to continue achieving strong pass rates in the next year.

Funding

The Trust has continued to support the school with some operational costs due to the growth phase of the school and the effects of the pandemic. Financial processes and recent results indicate the school will be self-sufficient in terms of operation in the near future.

The Trust held fundraising events as well as a tea and cake afternoon and a quiz to engage supporters in 2023. The Trust applied for funding from the Pat Wedge Fund during the year, which was utilised to support students at the school.

The Trust has continued to receive large and small donations which has enabled the school to continue operating and has added funds for building projects.

Many sponsors have continued to support students at the school through the Vinjeru School Trust Bursary Scheme. The scheme currently supports students who would otherwise not be able to attend secondary education.

Governance

The Trustees have continued to work with individuals in Zambia to establish a Zambian trust to oversee the operational governance of the school. The intention is that the UK trust will be solely responsible for raising money and providing grants to the school in Zambia for building and running their bursary scheme.

During the year, there were no changes in the trustees of the charity.

Future Work

The Trust is looking to expand the capacity of the Primary School in 2024 with a large building with multiple classrooms planned.

Signed on behalf of the trustees on 14th November 2024

Ross Power

Chairman, The Vinjeru School Trust – Charity No: 1135234

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE VINJERU SCHOOL TRUST
Charity number 1135234**

I report on the accounts of the charity trustees for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on the attached accounts.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that an independent examination is required. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act, to follow the procedures specified in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' statement

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 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 examiners' statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.

Ms M C Richardson FCCA



Richardson & Co Accountants
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Essex
CM77 8JT

14th November 2024

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Receipts and Payment Account for the 12 months ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds	Year to: 31/12/2022
As at 31/12/2023	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
General fund donations	13,905		13,905	22,510
Building fund donations		9,512	9,512	4,313
Uniform Fund		0	0	1,925
Simbeye fund donations		11,450	11,450	13,486
Bursaries fund donations		15,759	15,759	16,821
Wedge Building Grant		0	0	18,745
Wedge Education Grant		4,000	4,000	6,500
Teaching fund donations		8,840	8,840	11,000
Basketball Fund donations		1,140	1,140	0
Book Fund donations		1,000	1,000	0
Interest income	237		237	12
	14,142	51,701	65,843	95,312
Payments				
Grants paid - School operations	674	8,876	9,550	24,638
Grants paid - Bursary		17,685	17,685	18,990
Grants paid - Building works		16,000	16,000	0
Uniforms		0	0	1,288
Simbeye support		13,914	13,914	16,686
Wedge Building Grant		0	0	18,500
Wedge Education Grant		4,000	4,000	6,500
Basketball Court costs		1,140	1,140	0
Books		1,000	1,000	0
Bank and finance charges	274		274	292
Professional fees	360		360	360
Fund-raising Costs	6		6	0
	1,314	62,615	63,929	87,254
Net receipts / (payments)	12,828	-10,914	1,914	8,058
Transfers between funds	-5,664	5,664	0	0
Total funds brought forward	13,585	5,496	19,081	11,023
Total funds carried forward	20,750	245	20,995	19,081

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at	31/12/2023			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total funds	
	funds	Funds		
Cash funds	0	0	0	
HSBC	20,750	245	20,995	
	20,750	245	20,995	
Joel Haris				
Trustee/Treasurer				