



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	January	2021		31	December	2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Children of Choba

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1138096

Charity's principal address

20, Horseshoe Walk

Bath

Postcode

BA2 6DE

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	Valerie McGivern	Chair		
2	Stephen Walker			
3	Jemma Bartholomew			
4	Abraham Temu			
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20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by existing trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Children of Choba forms the Education Department of a registered Tanzanian Charitable Trust, Fisherfolks Charitable Development Trust (FCDT) of which Valerie McGivern and Abraham Temu are a trustees.

Children of Choba works very closely with the School Committee of Choba English Medium Primary and Nursery School in Tanzania, of which Valerie McGivern is a member on behalf of the donors. Abraham Temu is also a member (Secretary) in his capacity as Head Teacher.

Both the above organisations are independent of Children of Choba.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

1. To advance the education of the children of Choba and nearby villages by constructing, running and providing the highest standards of teaching and facilities at Children of Choba Primary and Nursery School. (Choba is a hamlet of Boza village, Pangani District, Tanga Region, Tanzania, East Africa)
2. The prevention and relief of poverty in rural Tanzania, particularly Choba.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

1. We continue to pay running expenses of Children of Choba Primary and Nursery School. The cost of running the school during the year was £19,231 (teachers' salaries) plus £21,338 (running expenses), a total of £40,569. The school was financed by parental contributions (£24,721, approx. 61%), and Children of Choba (£15,848, approx. 39%). Expenses include the following :
 - Salaries (including social security contributions) of 12 primary school teachers, 4 nursery school teachers, 1 office assistant, 3 part time cooks and 4 watchmen
 - Purchase and repair of bicycles for staff and volunteers
 - Text books, exercise books, pens and pencils, stationery
 - Porridge for an average over the period of 385 children every school day
 - Breakfast and lunch for all staff
 - Maintenance of all buildings and assets such as the bore holes and pumps
 - Printing and photocopying of monthly test and exam papers
 - School trips
 - Water bill (Primary School)
 - Transport to school for teachers

- In 2021 we have paid (or made a contribution towards) the school fees and boarding costs for 60 secondary school students and 15 college students, totalling £44,979. For the first time this year we have used some unrestricted funding to pay for a few Choba graduates to attend college and one to attend secondary school. The maximum paid to sponsor any one student was £1,500 in 2021.
- 2.

3 The eventual aim is for Choba Primary and Nursery School to be financed completely by parental contributions so that it can continue long after the present Children of Choba trustees. We are working gradually towards this aim, with the parents contributing 61% of the cost of running the school in 2021 compared to nothing when Children of Choba was founded in 2010. This transition is enabling us to spend more of our funding on the secondary and tertiary education of Choba graduates. However, the school will always be of supreme importance as the graduates would not obtain places at private secondary schools or colleges without the foundation they receive at Choba Primary School.

Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and consider all the activities we fund in Tanzania to be of public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- Contribution made by volunteers.

Valerie McGivern, Chair of Trustees, spent the entire period in Tanzania (2021). Her responsibilities included the following: -

- Fundraising and publicity for Children of Choba in UK
- Supervising all spending of charity money
- Ensuring that both schools comply with the Child Protection Policy of Children of Choba, a legal requirement for the sponsorship of the schools

During 2021 Valerie was required to retire in Tanzania but she is still able to fulfil the above roles as a trustee of Fisherfolks Charitable Development Trust. During this period she has obtained a small amount of restricted funding towards her living expenses – for details please refer to the Notes to Accounts.

There were no other volunteers during the year due to Covid

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

At Choba we are not just building a school, we are trying to give each child the opportunity to maximise his or her potential. This was our eighth year as an independent community school after we passed the strict criteria for registration.

In our seventh year of having a Class 7, we have achieved excellent results again. Choba English Medium Primary School performed very well in the National Primary School Leaving Examinations, with a school average over all subjects of 75% - of our 25 students 6 got an average of A and 19 got B. We came 2nd in Pangani District by 1 mark in 300 (beaten by a private school in Pangani Town), and in the top 2.5% of Tanga Region. We were also in the top 5% of the 17,573 primary schools in Tanzania despite the children doing all exams in English. This was a considerable achievement – 72% of the class are village children, most of whom live below the International poverty line.

3 Choba students were selected for government “special” secondary schools outside Pangani as a result of their excellent performance. Children of Choba has obtained sponsors for a further 6 children this year to study at 2 nearby private schools (Franciscan Girls’ and Capuchin Boys’) starting in January 2022. In 2021 we supported a total of 39 Choba graduates at various secondary schools in the 4 years to O level.

Children of Choba is paying for 10 Choba graduates to study for A level at private schools and supporting to various degrees 6 at government schools. 2022 will be a very interesting year for us as the founder members of Choba Primary school will sit their A levels in May and will be looking towards gaining university places in October.

Children of Choba has also paid for the college education (to diploma or certificate level) of 12 Choba graduates who completed their O level studies in 2019 and 2020 but who were not selected for A level. They are studying subjects that we hope will make them employable - community development, law, public administration, primary teaching, early years teaching, tour guiding and hotel management. The only sponsored student to finish her studies so far was immediately employed by a hotel in Zanzibar.

Our third intake at Choba Primary School (in 2011) sat their O levels in 2021 and all 23 passed. 7 got Division I, 5 got Division II, 6 Division III and 5 Division IV. No Choba graduate failed (12.7% failed nationally). 78% got Division I, II or III compared to 35% in Tanzania as a whole. These 18 will go on to A levels or government colleges.

We continue to be very encouraged by these results particularly as the parents realise the success of their children is due to their foundation at Choba Primary School.

Our sponsored university student Hadija Kibamba completed a postgraduate degree to become a Master of Public Health at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences in December 2021. She continues to lead the way for Choba graduates to follow and is currently employed by an NGO in Arusha.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We aim to keep at least half our annual expenditure in reserve at all times.
We finished this financial year with a total of £80,025 in hand. £9,679 of this is restricted funding and £32,218 designated by the trustees for secondary and tertiary education of Choba graduates. £38,128 of unrestricted funding remains, which is 53% of our annual expenditure.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Nil

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Grants were received during the year from Tula Trust (£2,000), Rotary Club of Bradford on Avon (£1,620) and Royal Commonwealth Society (Bath Branch) (£500).

In addition Gift Aid of £10,193 was claimed during the year.

Parental contributions towards the cost of running the school of £24,721 were received.

Sponsorship of specific children for secondary and tertiary education totalling £44,472 was received during the year. This was entirely from individuals who are friends or contacts of the trustees. None of this was from organisations.

Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Valerie	McGivern
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date		

CHILDREN OF CHOBA

PERIOD 01/01/2021 31/12/21

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

		UK	TANZANIA	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	TOTAL
	Notes	£			Note 10		
RECEIPTS							
DONATIONS	2,7	66,613	6,788	12,836	51,847	8,718	73,401
GRANTS	3	4,120		2,500	1,620		4,120
TRANSFERRED TO TANZANIA		-50,000	50,000				0
TOTAL		20,733	56,788	15,336	53,467	8,718	77,521
PAYMENTS							
PARENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	4		-24,721		-24,721		-24,721
TEACHERS' SALARIES			19,231	19,231			19,231
SCHOOL RUNNING EXPENSES	5		21,338	19,718	1,620		21,338
NET SCHOOL OPERATING COST			15,848	40,569	-24,721		15,848
SPONSORED STUDENTS	6,10		44,979	507	44,472		44,979
HELP TO OTHER CHOBA PEOPLE							
VOLUNTEERS	8						
FLIGHTS							
REPAYMENT OF LOAN	12		2,000	0	2,000		2,000
CAR EXPENSES	10,11		7,420	0	7,420		7,420
WEBSITE HOSTING		145		145	0		145
OFFICE EXPENSES	9	0		0	0		0
BANK CHARGES		140		140	0		140
RESTRICTED FUNDING FOR VALERIE MCGIVERN	10,11		896		896		896
TOTAL		285	71,143	41,361	30,067	0	71,428
NET BALANCE OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		20,448	-14,355	-26,025	23,400	8,718	6,093

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CASH FUNDS							
HSBC	7	72,854		34,016	6,620	32,218	72,854
EXIM BANK, TANGA			1,053	1,053			1,053
NMB, PANGANI			1,122	1,122			1,122
CASH IN HAND			1,937	1,937			1,937
2020 ALLOWANCE FOR VALERIE MCGIVERN	11		3,059		3,059		3,059
TOTAL	13	72,854	7,171	38,128	9,679	32,218	80,025
LIABILITIES							
NONE		0	0				0



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Children of Choba

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1138096

Set out on pages

Accounts Attached – including Notes to the Accounts

**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(2) 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 2011 Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Charities Act have 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:

1/6/2022

Name:

Martin Coles

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

FCMA, MA(Hons)

Address:

14 Dymott Square, Hilpertown, Trowbridge, Wiltshire. BA14 7RW

