

**THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022**

**Charity No: 1144395**

# **THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST**

## **REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

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# **THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022**

The Trustees present their report and accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Trust Deed, the Charities Act 2011 and guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

#### **OUR PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES**

The Trust was formed to advance the education of people with autism and / or language, communication or interaction difficulties, particularly those currently or previously attending or supported by Phoenix School.

It also aims to support international work with link organisations working with people with autism and communication difficulties.

#### **Grant making policy**

Grants are awarded after submission of applications to the trust. Applications are assessed to establish whether they are in the charity's objectives and the trustees review applications that meet their requirements in terms of the benefit given. Grants were paid of £18,685 (2021– £15,000).

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

##### **Teacher Training Programme**

The Trust administers the Trainee Teacher Bursary in conjunction with Phoenix School and the London East Teacher Training Alliance (LETTA).

Four trainees completed any programme in July 2021 and all subsequently went on to be employed by Phoenix School.

A further five trainees were taken on from September 2021 and are set to complete their programme by July 2022. The outbreak of Covid 19 at the beginning of 2020 affected the delivery of face-to-face lessons for trainees, however disruption is minimised and the use of online learning platforms.

##### **Model school in Sylhet, Bangladesh**

Phoenix Sylhet is a model special school in Bangladesh opened in September 19 in partnership with Apasen UK and its' sister organisation Apasen International. The project involved the development of the building to provide suitable classroom space including the outdoor play area; recruitment and appointment of teachers and teaching assistants; and their subsequent training and development.

During the past year there have been no visits from the Phoenix School UK to the school in Bangladesh although online training and management has taken place. This is largely managed by the Executive Headteacher at Phoenix School UK.

The National lockdown affected Phoenix School Sylhet quite severely with a long period of closure however it has been up and running now for more than six months. Staff at the school have worked with families remotely and supported them in their homes.

# **THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (Cont/d)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022**

#### **Public benefit statement**

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance "public benefit: running a charity" (PD2). The achievements and activities above demonstrate the public benefit arising through the charity's activities.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Trust is in a very healthy financial state. The Trustees can be very satisfied with the Trust's financial position, with total cash balance amounting (at the year end) to £203,786 (2021 - £193,007).

#### **RESERVES POLICY**

It is the policy of the Trustees to maintain reserves at a sufficient level to enable activities in the medium term. Reserves are set at the level to guarantee the continuation of activities despite any unexpected shortfalls in income. The trust has set aside some of its reserves for the operating costs of Phoenix Sylhet. The trust is committed to fund a further £18,685 in 22/23 and £18,685 in 23/24.

With expected reductions in education funding the trust will explore how it can use of its reserves to develop and maintain out of school activities at Phoenix School and to support the school with any other activities that it may be able to fund. The Trust will review this on an ongoing basis.

#### **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

##### **Teacher Training Programme 2022/23**

The current four trainees are due to complete their teacher training programme for 2021/22. One of the trainees was engaged as an unqualified teacher during the course of the year and therefore her grant was discontinued. A further five trainees have been recruited by the school to start in September 2022.

##### **International programme: Model School in Sylhet, Bangladesh**

The PSACT Trust along with Apasen International has committed to fund this programme for three years and will seek to find a sustainable funding model to enable the school to continue long term.

##### **Saturday Project and Youth Club**

The Trust has supported the development of a Saturday Youth club provision for young people with autism. The Saturday Project encourages young people to develop their social and life skills whilst improving their well-being through participation in activities within the local community. Activities include cooking and art activities and off-site visits. There are over 50 children registered on the Saturday Project scheme.

The Saturday Project has been awarded grants from the John Laing charitable trust over a two-year period from September 21. It has also been awarded a grant from Clifford Chance of £6000 and a grant from DFN of £20,000.

# THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (Cont/d)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

##### Governing document

The Trust was formed through the establishment of a Trust Deed dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 and amended on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014 and 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016. It was registered as a charity on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2011 under charity number 1144395.

##### Organisation

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The Board meets quarterly to review the affairs of the charity and to consider grant applications which are only paid to a beneficiary upon the approval of the Board.

The Trust supports Phoenix School's work with the local community and follows the school's financial management protocols.

##### Appointment of Trustees

There are currently three Trustees, all of whom are either part of the local community or a member of staff or a governor of the Phoenix School.

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

**Charity Number:** 1144395

**Trustees** Stewart Harris MBE – Chair  
Derek Stride – resigned on 3 February 2022  
Lorraine Wright  
Jonathon Caunt  
Veronica Armson – appointed on 29 September 2022

**Principal Office:** Phoenix School, 49 Bow Road, London E3 2AD

**Independent Examiner:** Mr David Terry  
Ramon Lee Ltd, 93 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4BA

**Bankers:** NatWest Plc, Stratford Broadway Branch,  
Ground Floor, Gredley House, 1-11 Broadway, London E15 4BQ

# **THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (Cont/d)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022**

### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The charity Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

### **APPROVAL**

This report was approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stewart Harris', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

**STEWART HARRIS MBE (CHAIR)  
TRUSTEE**

**14 December 2022**

# **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my Independent Examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

## **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

## **Independent Examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**D TERRY – Chartered Accountant  
RAMON LEE LTD  
93 TABERNACLE STREET  
LONDON EC2A 4BA**

**14 December 2022**

# THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>				
Grant - Phoenix School	-	42,000	42,000	45,000
Grant - Saturday Youth Club	-	25,000	25,000	10,000
Rental income	7,497	-	7,497	13,015
Donations	750	-	750	2,030
Investment income	17	-	17	269
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>8,264</b>	<b>67,000</b>	<b>75,264</b>	<b>70,313</b>
<b><u>Payments</u></b>				
Charitable activities:				
Donation	-	-	-	500
Bursaries	-	45,800	45,800	46,200
Grant funded activity (Note 2)	18,685	-	18,685	15,000
Administration and support costs	-	-	-	478
Governance costs	-	-	-	960
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>18,685</b>	<b>45,800</b>	<b>64,485</b>	<b>63,138</b>
<b>Net of Receipts/(Payments)</b>	<b>(10,421)</b>	<b>21,200</b>	<b>10,779</b>	<b>7,176</b>
<b>Cash Funds Last Year End</b>	<b>169,207</b>	<b>23,800</b>	<b>193,007</b>	<b>185,831</b>
<b>Cash Funds This Year End</b>	<b>158,786</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>203,786</b>	<b>193,007</b>

The notes on pages 9 to 10 form part of these accounts



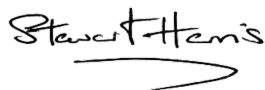
# THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b><u>Cash Funds</u></b>					
Cash & Bank	3	158,786	45,000	203,786	193,007
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>		<u>158,786</u>	<u>45,000</u>	<u>203,786</u>	<u>193,007</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 14 December 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
STEWART HARRIS MBE (CHAIR)

The notes on pages 9 to 10 form part of these accounts.

# THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The receipts and payment accounts have been drawn up as a summary of the receipts and payments made during the year by the charity. Amounts are included as received by the charity or as cheques are drawn. The accounts and statements do not include accruals and prepayments in respect of income and expenses.

The receipts and payments accounts and statements of assets and liabilities have been prepared following the guidance for accounting for smaller charities issued by the Charity Commission.

#### 2. ANALYSIS OF GRANTS

<u>Grants Paid</u>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	£	£
<u><b>EDUCATION</b></u>		
Apasen International	15,000	15,000
University College London	3,685	-
	<u>18,685</u>	<u>15,000</u>

#### 3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	<b>Balance as at 01.04.21</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Balance as at 31.03.22</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Phoenix School	13,800	42,000	45,800	10,000
Saturday Youth Club	10,000	25,000	-	35,000
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>23,800</u>	<u>67,000</u>	<u>45,800</u>	<u>45,000</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General funds	169,207	8,264	18,685	158,786
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>169,207</u>	<u>8,264</u>	<u>18,685</u>	<u>158,786</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>193,007</u>	<u>75,264</u>	<u>64,485</u>	<u>203,786</u>

# THE PHOENIX SCHOOL FOR AUTISM CHARITABLE TRUST

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022

#### 3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (continued)

##### Movement in funds – previous year

	Balance as at 01.04.20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance as at 31.03.21 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Phoenix School	15,000	45,000	46,200	13,800
Saturday Youth Club	-	10,000	-	10,000
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>46,200</u>	<u>23,800</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General funds	170,831	15,313	16,938	169,207
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>170,831</u>	<u>15,313</u>	<u>16,938</u>	<u>169,207</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>185,831</u>	<u>70,313</u>	<u>63,138</u>	<u>193,007</u>

##### Description, nature and purpose of restricted funds:

**Phoenix School** – grant provided to pay for the bursary scheme for trainee teachers.

**Saturday Youth Club** – grant provided for a Saturday youth club for young people with autism. The Saturday Project will encourage young people to develop their social and life skills whilst improving their wellbeing through participating in activities in the local community. Activities include cooking, physical activities and off-site trips.

#### 4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, a restricted grant of £42,000 (2021 – £45,000) was received from Phoenix School where Stewart Harris, Lorraine Wright and Jonathon Caunt are governors.

None of the Trustees received any remuneration during the year (2021 – Nil).

There were no other related party transactions for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.