

FAITH IN SCHOOLS

Trustee Report 2024-2025

Registered Address for the charity:

58 Reginald Road,
Forest Gate
London.
E7 9HS

Faith in Schools is a registered charity No. 1147664

Year ended 31st July 2025

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Year ended 31st July 2025

Legal and administrative information

Charity registration number 1147664

Legal framework Trust Deed

Chair of Trustees Mark Waterfield

Trustees Mark Waterfield
Susanne Daswani
Jill Mcwilliam
Natasha Seebaluck - appointed 30th September 2025

Registered office Faith in Schools
58 Reginald Road
London
E7 9HS

Independent Examiner Sylvia Lambden FCCA
Calculus Accountants and Tax Advisers Ltd
5 Priory Road
Loughton
Essex
IG10 1AF

Bankers The Co-operative Bank

Year ended 31st July 2025

Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report and accounts.

Charitable Objectives

The main objectives are to advance the Christian faith amongst children and young people in their schools and in partnership with the Church in areas of social disadvantage.

Organisation

The charity was established by a Trust Deed dated 25th May 2012 amended on 21st September 2021 and 11th May 2022.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011, to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and continue to provide public benefit through many and varied activities as described below. None of the activities are restricted in any way in terms of gender, race, faith, background, or disability.



Trustees

Mark Waterfield (Chair)
Jill McWilliam (Safeguarding)
Susanne Daswani (Church Liaison)
Natasha Seebaluck

The trustees met three times during the financial year. At these meetings they ensured the finances of the charity were in order, as well as made plans with the director to ensure the charities aims were continued to be met. The trustees are in agreement that this is the case, and the accounts have been independently examined successfully.

The day-to-day management of the charity is in the hands of Alice Probert.

The following statistics and activities report on the impact of our work for the duration of the academic year from September 2024 – July 2025.

Achievements and Activities

This report tells of our work in schools and with churches in Newham. Our aim is to advance the Christian faith amongst children and young people in their schools, in partnership with their local churches.

Our vision is for every child and young person in schools to have the opportunity to meet, in their RE lessons, local Christians and discover what it means to be a Christian in the 21st Century.

We also continued with our long-term plans for sustainability by recruiting churches to be trained, mentored and then to take on our RE lessons for themselves and regularly visit their local schools.

Year ended 31st July 2025

Our school team staffing hours remained the same as last year due to the core team remaining the same, but we still have continued to experience a demand for our services which outstrips our capacity to fulfil. We have also seen an increase of new volunteers coming through. The team again continued with their fundraising with various community events and engagement with our supporters. We did say goodbye to our manager Rich at Christmas as well as to our school worker Yvonne in the summer who both felt called to do other work after being with the charity for 5 years.



*Saying goodbye to Yvonne
(July 2025)*

We taught **832 lessons** in **62 different schools in Newham** teaching **24,960 pupils** as well as seeing **1400 pupils** in Calm Club. A total of **26,360 pupils** have been reached which is an increase of **12%** on the previous year. We saw **2752 pupils** for our Christmas Journey and **2640 pupils** for our Easter Experience as well as **378 pupils** at Life Expo. **243 volunteers** from local churches have given over **3292 hours** of their time supporting what we do in schools. Our average lesson score was **5.6** out of a potential score of 6 from lesson evaluations by teachers. This demonstrates a sustained high-quality provision consistent with the last ten years.

Christmas Journey, Easter Experience and Life Expo

Our **Christmas Journey** saw an amazing **3003 Year 1 pupils** (5- and 6-year-olds) plus parents and schools staff attend from **42 different schools**. The event was held at **7 host churches** over 8 days and involved **123 volunteers** from **31 different churches** who gave a total of **1102 volunteering hours**. These figures show an increase of **9%** in pupils seen and **51%** for volunteers and hours given from Christmas Journey 2023.



*Sharing lunch between sessions
(CJ Forest Gate 2024)*



*Shepherd keeping warm
(CJ Manor Park 2024)*



*Mary telling her story while making bread
(CJ Canning Town 2024)*

Easter Experience saw **2360 Year 4 pupils** (8- and 9-year-olds) with parents and school staff from **34 different schools** going to **7 different host churches** over 8 days. This number is slightly down on last year due to Ramadan where several schools informed us that they were not allowed on school trips, however we did attend some of those schools to do Easter lessons in class. We also had 3 new schools attending, including 1 school who has never had any sessions from us before. Overall, **129 volunteers** from **31 active churches** gave a total of **1274 volunteering hours** supporting this work by sharing how they celebrate Easter with Newham children.

Year ended 31st July 2025



Creating Joy through writing
(Calligraphy 2025)



Showing Jesus's love on the cross
(Banners, 2024)



Sowing the seeds! Prep for gardens
(Volunteers prep, 2024)

Life Expo was held at one location and reached **450 Year 6 pupils** (10- & 11-year-olds) from **6 different schools**. This year the host church coordinated the volunteers while Faith in Schools coordinated the schools.



Life Expo Team at Manor Park Christian Centre

Calm Club

Through a Newham Mental Health and Wellbeing grant a Calm Club (wellbeing lunch club) was launched in at a secondary school in partnership with a youth worker from a local church. **360 young people** have taken advantage of this space and the school is requesting another club to be opened on their second site. This project is pastoral based with the young people enjoying playing games, crocheting and other crafts. They have a space where they can ask faith-based questions.



End of term treat!

Year ended 31st July 2025

Church Partnership

The number of associate church workers who lead visits in at least 1 school has now increased to **14** independently which is up on 9 from last year. They have led **128 lessons** at **12 different schools**.

We are pleased by this increase in numbers as it fits with our aims to equip churches to be able to interact with their local schools successfully with support from us a charity. This has helped continue our work in the areas of the borough where we do not have a dedicated schools worker and so allowing children to meet local Christians as part of their RE lessons.

Safeguarding

The trustees have reviewed the charities practices and procedures around safeguarding of children who we come into contact within schools. They have agreed that our practices are fit for purpose and are happy for the charity to continue to work under the safeguarding policies of the schools we work with. All volunteers have gone through our safeguarding training. There have been no instances of concern and no complaints received about the charity's practices and procedures. All volunteers who work with us are DBS'ed through Scripture Union.

Our finances and figures

Our finances for this period go from August 2024 to July 2025. In this time our income was £75,490 (2024: £93,975) and our expenditure was £103,971 (2024: 108,493). The charity has worked hard to remain sustainable by again looking at staffing and capacity while raising monies through local fundraisers, support from local givers. We still continue to face significant challenges to funding faith-based work due to the cost-of-living priorities. With our built-up reserves, we continue to be in a financial responsible position.

Of the £43,384 balance left in our account, £5,506 is in restricted funds and £15,000 is designated to cover staff redundancies if required in the future totalling £20,506 with the remaining £22,878 in the unrestricted General funds being allocated towards wages from September 2025. We aim to retain reserves to allow us to meet our obligations for the following three months.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to highlight and lessen these risks. Policies are being prepared and updated to mitigate risk such as safeguarding, child protection, photography and filming, disciplinary. Grievance and equality.

Year ended 31st July 2025

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the [Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been agreed by the Trustees of Faith in Schools.

Approved by the Trustees on 12/05/26 2026

and signed on their behalf by:



Mark Waterfield (May 12, 2026 10:19:32 GMT+1)

.....
Mark Waterfield
Trustee and chairman

Year ended 31st July 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Faith in School Newham

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2025 which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

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).

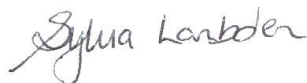
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

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.



Sylvia Lambden FCCA

Calculus Accountants and Tax Advisers Limited
Accountants
5 Priory Road
Loughton
Essex IG10 1AF

Date: May 2026 12/05/26

Year ended 31st July 2025**Receipts and Payments Account**

		Restricted Funds	General Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Receipts	Notes	£	£	£	£
Donations and gift aid receipts	2	60	31,794	31,854	50,223
Grants	3	33,500	-	33,500	42,444
Sundry income	4	-	9,162	9,162	235
Investment income		289	685	974	1,073
Total receipts (excluding assets receipts)		33,849	41,641	75,490	93,975
Total incoming resources		33,849	41,641	75,490	93,975
Payments					
Charitable Activities	5	44,878	53,551	98,429	102,615
Administrative Expenses	6	-	5,542	5,542	5,866
Total Payments (excluding assets receipts)		44,878	59,093	103,971	108,493
Total Payments		44,878	59,093	103,971	108,493
Net resources expended		(11,029)	(17,452)	(28,481)	(14,518)
Net movement in funds					
Cash Fund balances brought forward at 1st August 2024		16,535	55,330	71,865	86,383
		-	-	-	
Cash Fund balances carried forward at 31st July 2025	9	£5,506	37,878	£43,384	£71,865

The notes on page 11 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

Year ended 31st July 2025**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

		Restricted £	Unrestricted	2025 £	2024
Cooperative Bank Current Account		4,804	5,462	10,266	15,599
Cooperative Bank Current (WTP)		702	-	702	10,587
Cooperative Bank Deposit Account		-	32,416	32,416	45,659
Paypal Account		-	-	-	20
Total cash funds		£5,506	37,878	£43,384	£71,865
Fixtures and fittings at insurance value			-	£3,600	£3,600
Liabilities					
Grant overpaid				1,188	1,188
Accruals				890	£890
Funds					
Unrestricted					
General funds		-	37,878	37,878	55,330
Restricted					
Restricted	8	5,506	-	5,506	51,535
Total funds		£5,506	£37,878	£43,384	£71,865

The financial statements on pages 9 to 13 were approved by the Trustees on and signed on their behalf by:



Mark Waterfield (May 12, 2026 10:19:32 GMT+1)

Mark Waterfield
Chairman and Trustee

12/05/26

May 2026

Year ended 31st July 2025**Notes to the accounts****1. Accounting policies****1.1 Basis of preparation of the accounts**

The accounts are prepared on a 'Receipts & Payments' basis under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011, the statement of assets and liabilities included assets listed at insured values. The results of the Charity operations are described in the Trustees' Report and are continuing. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the [Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed.

1.2 Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are those which were raised for particular purposes and can only be used for those particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

Incoming resources

Donations and general gifts are recognised as incoming resources on receipt.

Gift aid income received are tax reclaims on the donations of tax paying members of the Church and are included in donations on receipt.

Investment and sundry income is recognised when received.

1.3 Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the statement of financial activities on a receipts and payments basis. Certain costs have been apportioned between direct charitable expenditure, management and administration on a basis consistent with the use of those resources.

2. Donations and general gifts

	Restricted £	General £	Total £ 2025	Total £ 2024
Donations	60	25,873	25,933	45,302
Gifts	-	2,880	2,880	1,3700
Gift Aid Reclaimed	-	3,041	3,041	3,551
Total	£60	£31,794	£31,854	£50,223

Year ended 31st July 2025**Notes to the accounts****3. Grants**

	Restricted £	General £	Total £ 2025	Total £ 2024
London Borough of Newham	20,000	-	20,000	12,029
Benefact Trust	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Mr Williats	3,500	-	3,500	3,500
Aston Mansfield	-	-	-	2,000
London over the Border	-	-	-	7,414
Good news evangelical mission	-	-	-	5,000
Tate and Lyle	-	-	-	2,500
Total	£33,500		£33,500	£42,444

4. Sundry income

	Restricted £	General £	Total £ 2025	Total £ 2024
Events	-	8,778	8,778	-
Miscellaneous	-	384	384	235
Total	-	£9,162	£9,162	£235

5. Analysis of Expenditure

	Restricted £	General £	2025 £	2024 £
Charitable activities				
Salaries and pension	33,147	51,632	84,779	84,362
Conference	-	140	140	90
Travel	49	408	457	260
Resources	199	7	206	990
Computer costs	76	78	154	173
Website	-	457	457	296
Christmas journey	444	-	444	1,183
Easter experience	734	-	734	13,828
WTP expenses	10,146	-	10,146	-
Clubs and events	-	386	386	629
Sundry items	68	365	433	276
Paypal fees	-	78	78	60
Printing, post and stationery	15	-	15	468
	£44,878	£53,551	£98,429	£102,615

Year ended 31st July 2025**Notes to the accounts**

			2025 £	2024 £
5. Administrative costs				
Finance fees	-	-	-	-
Insurance	-	888	888	921
Rent	-	3,345	3,293	3,345
Telephone and broadband	-	486	486	212
Safeguarding	-	-	-	38
Donation	-	600		600
Governance:				
Independent examination	-	875	875	750
Total		£-	£5,542	£5,542
			£5,542	£5,866

6. Employment costs

The charity had 6 employees during the year. The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme.

7. Trustee and related parties

Amounts paid by Trustees on behalf of the charity are reimbursed if required but no other expenses are claimed or paid. No related party items have been identified.

8. Reserves

	At 1 st Aug 24 £	Receipts £	Expenses £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2025 £
General Funds	<u>55,330</u>	<u>41,641</u>	<u>59,093</u>	-	<u>37,878</u>
Restricted Funds					
All Churches Trust	2,012	60	470	-	1,602
Seedfield Trust (Easter	1,159	-	734	-	425
Experience) Synergy	1,588	-	-	-	1,588
The Willats Trust	-	3,500	3,500	-	-
Lon Boro Newham mental Health	1,189	-	-	-	1,189
Benefact Trust	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Whats the point project	<u>10,587</u>	<u>20,289</u>	<u>30,174</u>	-	<u>702</u>
Total restricted	<u>£16,535</u>	<u>£33,560</u>	<u>£46,177</u>		<u>£5,506</u>
	£71,865	£75,490	£103,971	-	£43,384

- £15,000 of general funds have been designated to cover charity wind up costs if required.