

Christian Connections in Schools (CCiS)

Annual Report

April 2021

Christian Connections in Schools (CCiS) Annual Report

Christian Connections in Schools - Registered Charity No. 1150149

Slough Baptist Church

Church Office

Windsor Road

SLOUGH

SL1 2EJ

Office: 01753 201992

www.ccischools.org.uk

info@ccischools.org.uk

wayne@ccischools.org.uk

Christian Connections in Schools has a vision to make Jesus known in primary and secondary schools in Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead, through partnership with local churches and as a mission partner with Scripture Union. This is achieved through a broad spectrum of work, ranging from assemblies and lessons and supporting Christian groups, to large scale events and residential trips.

Currently we employ Wayne Dixon who works in a number of secondary schools in the area and was previously the Scripture Union schools worker for Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead for 25 years. We aim to sustain him in continuing and enlarging this role, through administering the support offered by churches and individuals who value the outstanding relationships he enjoys with staff and students alike.

The Trust is governed by a Trust Deed which states that the principal purpose of the charity is to advance the Christian faith among children, young people and families, particularly in schools and in conjunction with the churches in the area of Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead.

Public benefits include advancing the Christian faith among children, young people and families through education, training and religious activities, achieved by undertaking school assemblies and lessons; Hanging Around Ministry; seasonal courses/teaching in schools and churches on occasions such as Easter and Christmas; working with and promoting the wider work and aims of Scripture Union; working with youth groups and churches; and planning, producing and leading specific campaigns/activities in wider areas such as Christianity Awareness Week.

Trustees

Trustees are drawn from local churches and are appointed with regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. Trustees are appointed for a term of three years, except for those who were responsible for setting up the trust, whose terms of initial appointment varied. All trustees are in their second or subsequent term of office, except Grant Hallam, who was newly appointed in August 2020.

Revd Andrew John Perryman (Chair until August 2021)

Mr Alan Peter Symons (Chair from August 2021)

Mr Robert James Miles (Secretary)

Mr Richard Geoffrey Thorogood (Treasurer)

Revd Peter Thomas Cranch (Finance)

Mrs Pauline Catherine Scott (Communications)

Mr Grant Hallam (Data Protection)

The Trust works with children and vulnerable people and trustees have jointly and individually declared that they have carried out all trustee eligibility tests that are required by law.

Mission Partner

Scripture Union England & Wales
Trinity House,
Opal Court,
Fox Milne,
Milton Keynes
MK15 0DF

Independent Examiner

Mrs Heidi Auero-Fox
Apartment 7
26 Trinity Place
Windsor
Berks
SL4 3AP

Bankers

NatWest,
7 High Street,
Marlow,
Bucks
SL7 1AY

CAF Bank,
25 Kings Hill Avenue,
West Malling,
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Insurers

Ageas Insurance Limited,
Ageas House,
Hampshire Corporate Park,
Templars Way,
Eastleigh,
Hampshire
SO53 3YA

Policies and Procedures

Type of governing document: Trust Deed, adopted September 20th, 2012.

The Trust has documented policies covering safeguarding children and young people; work related stressors; parental, maternity and paternity leave; disciplinary, grievances and complaints; financial controls, financial reserves and investments; paying employees; conflicts of interest and anti-bribery. Our GDPR policy is currently being reviewed to include specifics of data storage.

Annual report: April 2020-April 2021

Aims and values

We aim to advance the Christian faith among children, young people and families, particularly in schools and in conjunction with the churches in the area of Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead.

We endeavour to do this through:

Partnership with local churches, individuals and Christians in schools.

Developing good **Relationships** with individuals and schools.

Respecting the school environment as a place of education and the beliefs of others.

Seeking for our work to be **Relevant** in how we communicate the good news of Jesus as it is revealed to us in the Bible.

What we do: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/228468467>

In everything we do, our intention is to engage with all those in schools (students, teachers and support staff) and to encourage and support Christians in schools by using words and actions.

❖ ***Hanging Around Ministry – HAM***

HAM reinforces and complements schools' ministry by providing an opportunity to spend time with pupils, staff and others at more informal occasions such as lunch and break times.

❖ **Assemblies**

Assemblies have proved to be an effective way to dispel some of the misconceptions that people may have about Jesus and Christianity. It provides a short opportunity (5-8 minutes) to share with a large group (approx. 200-250 at a time) some of what Jesus said or did, or a story that Jesus told.

❖ **Lessons**

Teaching time contributes to the school RE/PSHE curriculum and provides opportunities for discussion in a classroom setting.

❖ ***Christmas Unwrapped and Easter Cracked***

These significant initiatives started as a one-off church centenary celebration in 1994. Local schools are invited to send their Year 6 classes to these church-based presentations of the great stories of the Gospel, which have proved to be so popular that more than 50 areas throughout the country are now involved in putting on their own events.

Each presentation aims to provide a warm welcome to the church and hopes to share something of both the Christmas and Easter miracles in a way that is memorable, interactive and engaging. Slough Baptist Church held the very first presentations and currently schedule *Easter Cracked* for March and *Christmas Unwrapped* for late November. The church provides an outline programme so that anyone wishing to hold their own event in their local area has all they need to get started.

❖ ***It's Your Move!***

It's Your Move! entails an hour-long session for year 6 pupils (age 10/11) and is held in primary schools during late June and early July for children preparing to move to senior school.

❖ **School Christian Groups**

Wayne Dixon's schools work began when Slough Grammar asked him to help set up a Christian group in the school. Groups like this now meet in a number

of local schools, including Altwood, Burnham Grammar (Explore), Cox Green (Ignite) and Windsor Girls' School (Big Questions). These groups are publicised in assemblies at the beginning of the school year.

❖ **Examattack**

'Examattack' is a presentation held in most of the secondary schools Wayne visits and seeks to put exams into perspective for students. This initiative has been well received for its contribution to the life of a school in an area which is hugely important.

<http://www.examattack.org.uk/>

❖ **Inter Schools Soccer Sevens**

This is an annual competition for local schools which enter teams of students, up to and including year 10, and is held at Langley Grammar School over two evenings. In the years when there is a World Cup or European Championship, pupils receive booklets packed full of stories, facts and figures as well as testimonies from Christian sportsmen and women.

❖ **Youth & Children 'What's On? Update**

We send out a regular email that helps publicise events, resources and more that might help churches enhance their children's and youth ministry. Churches or individuals who wish to publicise events, resources or training in their own area for anyone involved with children's, youth or schools work may also send details to us and we will include them in future updates.

❖ **Christianity Awareness Week**

The trust undertakes to work with youth groups and churches through planning, producing and leading specific campaigns and activities in schools and the wider area. One such is Christianity Awareness Week (Illuminate Windsor & Slough), most recently held in October 2018.

❖ **Prayer**

We believe that the most significant contribution we can make to our schools is to pray for them. There are a number of opportunities each year for particular prayer events, including Education Sunday (early September), Prayday (November) and Pray for Schools (a fortnight in May).

❖ **Primary Schools initiatives**

This short video explains our Church/Primary School initiatives and how they have developed over the past 25 years.

<https://youtu.be/OvEBYlycwRA>.

What we achieved

Summer 2020

The advent of lockdown in March 2020 naturally had a significant impact on our work in schools. Our schools worker, Wayne Dixon, was furloughed for most of the summer term, with the result that he was unable to carry out any online work with staff and students during those particular weeks. *Easter Cracked*, our annual presentation for children in Year 6, was unable to go ahead.

❖ *It's Your Move!*

Most of these presentations, which were due to take place in over 50 schools for over 3000 pupils, were also cancelled, but we did the best we could in July for about another fifteen schools. However, Wayne was able to do several remote sessions and generally this went well with some great questions from the pupils and a really encouraging contribution from one teacher at the beginning of one of these sessions.

We hope that several options will become available in the future, including making use of video presentations, though ideally we would prefer to have face to face sessions with young people playing key roles.

Autumn 2020

❖ *Christmas Unwrapped*

Even though these in-person events could not go ahead this time, we discovered that by recording and holding a presentation as an online event, some schools were able to access it for the first time, so this could provide a new platform for the future.

❖ *Examattack*

After 238 days away from any senior school, Wayne was finally able to present

a year 13 *Examattack* session at Cox Green School. By this time, most of his sessions in schools were taking place remotely, a new experience which had proved to be both very interesting and a steep learning curve. But whether in person or online, these sessions gave him excellent opportunities to share part of his own story and the key difference Jesus makes, as well as a chance to look at some big questions with staff and pupils.

Spring 2021

❖ **Easter Cracked Online**

Easter Cracked Online is a resource which we hope to use again if schools are unable to visit us in person:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lv07rOYbl4M>

Feedback was very encouraging:

'I've watched the whole programme this evening. I thought it was very engaging, fun, and informative. Very clever ! I really enjoyed it. Well done team! I've forwarded it to my sister, her grandson is Yr 6...'

'It was engaging and fun. The children really enjoyed it and it gave them a good understanding of what Easter is all about for Christians.'

'Both pupils and staff members ... learnt something new! It is a memorable experience pupils will not forget in a hurry.'

'RE can be a challenging subject to teach whilst keeping in mind the diversity that exists in most classrooms. For children to engage with it and understand the messages, having input from CCIS is invaluable'.

❖ **Flexibility and adapting to change**

Wayne Dixon writes with regard to the new procedures required since he has been able to return to working in schools:

*I arrived at St. Bernard's Grammar and signed in, but instead of heading off as usual for some **Hanging Around Ministry** in their common room and staff room, or in places where pupils hang out before school, I had to wait. The first member of staff I encountered was Paul the Headteacher, but instead of our usual handshake we kept our face coverings on and talked at a distance from each other. It felt rather sad, a word I keep hearing these days.*

Siobhan the chaplain then took me to for the first group of four classes, and I was glad I checked with the teacher before taking my face covering off. I'd assumed that I could do so when I started my talk, but it was not permitted! At the end of the session I wasn't sure if I could go and chat with the Year 9 students who were outside having their break, so I stayed in the corridor instead. At one point I was just about to venture up to the classroom but remembered in time that it was not appropriate, all of which felt really weird, even if it was necessary. I really do feel for the staff, especially for Headteachers like Paul. The workload on teachers and office staff trying to work on Centre Assessed Grades for their Year 7's, 11's and 13's must be overwhelming. I came away quite sad but was pleased to do in-person as I had some great chats with the staff, and the experience was so much better than trying to do the lessons over Teams or ZOOM.

Throughout the year

❖ Assemblies

1971-2021-2071: F. A. Cup Final - Bible Assembly

Wayne writes:

It was a Tuesday morning and I'd linked up with Desborough College for a Year 10 assembly about The Bible. I'd told them that in 1971 Arsenal won the F.A. Cup Final 2-1 at Wembley with a great goal by Charlie George! Part way through we had a power cut, and everything went down for about half an hour. I assume the lads clicked out from the assembly and logged into their first lesson instead; I apologised and was a little nervous later when trying to do the same assembly with another year group. This time the technology worked, but it was a lesson to me that these days I have to learn to be adaptable!

❖ Zach Rap: 30 years on - online!

It has been thirty years since Wayne first performed the *Zach Rap*, which was written by three teenagers, Katie, Dani & Nicki. Since then, there have been numerous opportunities to share the story of how Jesus changed Zacchaeus' life, in churches, at many a school prom, *Spring Harvest*, *Lighthouse Burnham*, in the assembly hall and in the classroom. We thank God that this rap has even worked online, as Wayne has sent the link to schools to use as part of the *People Jesus Met* lesson he has provided at Burnham Grammar, Furze Platt Senior, Newlands Girls' and St. Joseph's. A good example of a flexible and adaptable resource which can be used in different settings.

❖ Encouragements

From Lucy Miller, a student at Newlands Girls School. This has been such an encouragement, as it has shown the potential for creative thinking from our Christian young people.

'Jess and I spent a long, long time trying to pick a name. The idea of setting up a Christian group at school utterly daunted me, and naming the group was something I agonized over. In the end (admittedly mostly because of an Instagram poll) we decided on 'Revive', but the more I think about it, the more apt a name it is. We wanted to start a Christian group at Newlands because we believe that the good news that we are sinners created, loved, forgiven and made holy by God brings life, both now and eternally. There is no truth more radical or more important! We want to encourage other people at school who are already trusting in Christ, and to be somewhere where those who don't can come to make friends, eat brownies, ask questions about faith and hear the gospel.

REVIVE officially started in September 2019 (it was a huge encouragement to get together with about 15/ 20 girls every other Monday) but because we were still a 'baby Christian Union' when the pandemic closed schools in March, we

really struggled to keep going over lockdown. Since September 2020, we've been able to start up again over ZOOM - a normal session now involves a game, followed by a talk and 'breakout rooms' to chat and pray. It's strange and I can't wait to start seeing everyone again in person, but we know that God can use this period for our good and his glory. Praise him for his faithfulness! Please also thank God that after a tiring day at school (Mondays are never easy!) so many people are still enthusiastic to come along, and pray that we would all be constantly depending on Him for energy and wisdom.'

From a local headteacher;

'Dear Wayne, Our school has always valued your inspiring contributions to our community and curriculum. I am touched by your message to Headteachers. This recent period has certainly been the most trying of my career to date. More than ever, Headteachers need positive feedback and encouragement, which is why I want to thank you for your message. Many thanks for taking the time to write and to send your prayers and best wishes. They are very much appreciated at this time. Thank you from all at school and from me in particular...I hope we get to see you again soon'.

❖ **Pause to Pray**

Pause to Pray began around twenty years ago and we still encourage supporters to pray for our schools via a monthly update. We held an online prayer session on Tuesday 17 November to tie in with *Schools PrayDay*, and plan another for the summer term in 2021

❖ **Partnership ministries**

Through conversations with headteachers, other staff and especially young people over the past months, we have become increasingly aware of the need to promote their well-being. There are various initiatives available both in school and out of school, all of which we promote. Examples include *Rooted* and *Kintsugi* groups and a mental health and wellbeing suite developed by Scripture Union.

Communication

CCiS communicates through a variety of sources, including regular termly newsletters, delivered either electronically or through the post. There is a well-presented website which includes news of forthcoming events: <http://ccischools.org.uk/about-ccis/>

Wayne sends news of his own and other initiatives through regular monthly emails to all his contacts. These include his *Youth and Children's What's On* update and *Pause to Pray*, where the need to pray for particular concerns is highlighted.

Giving

To maintain and develop the work in our schools we are looking for individuals and churches prayerfully to consider giving to CCiS in the following ways:

- Visit <https://www.cafonline.org/>
- Make a bank transfer to *Christian Connections in Schools*, sort code 40 52 40, account number 00032898
- Send a cheque (payable to *Christian Connections in Schools*) to: The Treasurer, CCiS, Westfield, 3c College Avenue, Maidenhead SL6 6AR
- Leave a bequest to CCiS, using our charity name *Christian Connections in Schools* and registered number 1150149

The trustees are very grateful to all those who support us in their different ways, most especially over this difficult period.

Vision for the future

Christian Connections in Schools has a vision to make Jesus known in primary and secondary schools in Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead, through partnership with local churches and as a mission partner with Scripture Union. We currently support a full-time worker whose expertise particularly lies in working with secondary schools, but have a vision to extend this work to the primary age group (primary, first and middle schools), recognising the vital importance of sharing what Christians believe with young children. To this end we are seeking to employ an additional schools' worker to work primarily with Key Stages 1-2 in a face to face, enabling and facilitating role with local churches and schools. This is an exciting opportunity for someone with a passion for making Jesus known in our local schools. The role will include

- A. Local church work: which involves establishing and maintaining contact with churches and enabling them to be involved with local schools by facilitating and training them.
- B. Schools work: which includes advocating the Christian faith, lifestyle and support work with children and young people predominantly in primary, first and middle schools.
- C. Training: which includes the recruiting, equipping and support of volunteers for the furtherance of the work; and developing resources for them to use.

It is expected that the schools worker will be pro-active in making contact with schools and churches, whilst recognising that all activities within schools or churches are at their invitation and approval. The role will include some weekend and evening commitments. We are willing to consider a part time worker or job share.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year, which comply with the regulations made under that act.

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

Charity law in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its financial activities for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
4. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which 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 Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under s145 of the Charities Act 2011. 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.

Approval

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Annual Report above and the Financial Report for the period 6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021. The trustees authorised Mr Alan Peter Symons (Chair) to sign on their behalf.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Alan Symons

Alan Peter Symons (Chair)

Date:15/11/21

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report on my examination of the accounts of the charity Christian Connections in Schools for the period from 6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's 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 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those 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.

Heidi Auero-Fox

Heidi Auero-Fox
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Apartment 7
26 Trinity Place
Windsor
Berkshire SL4 3AP

Date: 24/11/21

Financial Report (attached as separate document)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name Christian Connections in Schools	No (if any) 1150149
--	------------------------

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 06/04/2020	To	Period end date 05/04/2021
------------------------	---------------------------------	----	-------------------------------

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	48,019	3,050	-	51,069	55,785
Gift Aid	4,214	75	-	4,289	3,280
CJRS grant	10,031	-	-	10,031	-
Interest	4	-	-	4	9
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	62,269	3,125	-	65,394	59,074
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	62,269	3,125	-	65,394	59,074
A3 Payments					
Employment-related	38,196	-	-	38,196	37,756
Travel	292	-	-	292	3,317
Telephone	75	-	-	75	356
Insurance	491	-	-	491	522
IT support, payroll processing, bank charges	678	-	-	678	823
Stationery and resources	815	-	-	815	1,758
Recruitment	207	-	-	207	747
It's Your Move	-	-	-	-	600
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	40,754	-	-	40,754	45,878
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Computer equipment	-	-	-	-	2,017
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	2,017
Total payments	40,754	-	-	40,754	47,895
Net of receipts/(payments)	21,515	3,125	-	24,640	11,179
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	77,807	1,623	-	79,429	68,250
Cash funds this year end	99,321	4,748	-	104,069	79,429

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at bank	99,321	4,748	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	99,321	4,748	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Computer equipment	Unrestricted	2,017	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	

Christian Connections in Schools (CCiS)

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

April 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report on my examination of the accounts of the charity Christian Connections in Schools for the period from 6th April 2020 to 5th April 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's 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 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those 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.

Heidi Auero-Fox

Heidi Auero-Fox
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Apartment 7
26 Trinity Place
Windsor
Berkshire SL4 3AP

Date: 24/11/21