

Company Registration No: 07881901

Charity Registration No: 1160838

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
AND
UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2021**

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name	Methodist Academies and Schools Trust
Charity Registration No.	1160838
Company Registration No.	07881901 (England and Wales)
Registered Office	Methodist Church House 25 Marylebone Road London NW1 5JR
Trustees/Directors	Mr S Colledge (Chair) (appointed on 1 September 2020) Mrs A Bolton Mrs L Brookbanks Dr L Earps Mrs A Foster (appointed on 1 September 2020) Dr D Kershaw CBE Revd P Martin (Deputy Chair) Revd S Ratcliffe (resigned on 22 September 2021) Dr C Stephens Mr J Weaving (resigned on 12 November 2021)
Bankers	HSBC The Peak 333 Vauxhall Bridge Road London SW1V 1EJ
Independent Examiner	RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited 25 Farringdon Street London EC4A 4AB

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees of the charity, who are also the company directors present their annual report and the financial statements of the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust for the year ended 31 August 2021. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice ("Charities SORP") (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

Reference and Administrative Details

The names of the Trustees during the period and to the date of this report and other reference and administrative details are given on page 2.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing documents of the charity are the memorandum and articles of association of the company. The Trustees of the charity are the directors of the company.

Method of Recruitment, Appointment, Election, Induction & Training of Trustees

The Trustees, who are the directors of the Company, are appointed by the Methodist Conference on the recommendation of the Methodist Council. The Articles of Association provide that the Trustees shall consist of the Chair and no more than 13 other Trustees. The Trustees are also the members.

Induction and training of Board members is the responsibility of the Chair, who inducts all new members, and provides information, updates and training as necessary.

To reflect the on going financial support from Southlands Methodist Trust and Westminster College Oxford Trust Dr Christopher Stephens and Mrs Anne Bolton have been appointed to be trustees of MAST representing these two organisations.

Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit

In the name of the Methodist Church, to oversee support and guidance for Methodist schools in the state sector and (jointly with the Church of England) ecumenical schools in providing the best all-round education for all their pupils, inspired by Methodist values and ethos and resourced by high quality professional expertise.

The charity trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Achievements and Performance

The achievements and ongoing activities of the organisation were set in the context of the Covid pandemic and its uneven impacts on schooling at different times in the year and different parts of the country. Achievements and performance therefore include:

- Strong pastoral support for Methodist school leaders in response to the extra stress and strain of the role in covid times.
- Strong practical support so that our Headteachers and Governors could lead schools most effectively at different phases of the pandemic, applying national guidance to individual contexts.
- Developing an increasingly strong and popular series of webinars for schools and adding a YouTube channel to allow for 'watch again'. By the end of the year MAST had over 30 webinars in the online library for people in schools to watch at their convenience, or as a resource for school leaders to use in whole-staff/Governor training. The webinars cover a range of training needs: general curriculum provision; subject specific training (such as 'excellence in teaching numeracy' and 'liven up your literacy'); church school ethos, worship and religious education; Covid-specific support. Because of the online availability we have been able to share training extensively beyond the group with no additional effort, including internationally with worldwide Methodist partners.
- Embedding closer relationships with our schools begun in the previous year by the appointment of locally based Regional Leaders in Education and development of improved systems for information sharing. The restrictions of the pandemic impacted the further development of our support programme for early headship but the provision, though limited, was still welcomed.
- Close partnership working with The Epworth Trust, our Methodist sister organisation working in the academies sector, enabling us to offer high-quality school improvement intervention to schools experiencing particular vulnerability.
- Following the initiation of a suite of anti-racist RE resources in 2019/20 (developed for us by the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education – NATRE), MAST was part of the roll-out and promotion of the materials throughout the year. By the end of the academic year, they were being used in an estimated 1200 schools across the country.
- Working with partners in the Church of England to re-work the current Section 48 inspection framework ready for the recommencement of inspections in September 2021.
- Additionally, working with our Anglican partners to introduce a centralised system for SIAMS which will avoid some of the inconsistencies of the present system and enhance the quality of Section 48 inspections across the Church of England and Methodist schools sector.
- Welcoming the new Chair of MAST and plotting a course for an active organisation in uncertain times.
- Taking a full and active part in the Methodist Schools Committee, supporting the development of a strategy for education within the overall work of the Methodist Church, bringing this successfully to the Methodist Conference of 2021 and beginning the work of delivery.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

- Responding to Government encouragement to strengthen the national academisation process by supporting Methodist schools looking to become academies and working closely with our Methodist Academy colleagues at The Epworth Trust.
- Working with the Free Church Education Committee, especially in the provision of resources and contributing, with them, to teacher training in Religious Education.
- contributing to chaplaincy development within the organisation and working to support the development of centralised educational chaplaincy support through the Centre for Chaplaincy in Education.
- Working closely with other partners in the provision of high quality education particularly, but not exclusively, the Methodist Independent Schools Trust and the University of Roehampton.
- Working with the Methodist Church to establish understanding and commitment to schools in a practical and purposeful way despite an uncertain future.

Financial Review

During the year the Trust had net expenditure of £85,262 (2020: net income of £105,852). The net expenditure outcome for the year was expected, and was the result of a 'grant holiday' taken by one of our main funders in light of the significant reserves built up in MAST, and a reduction in costs in 20/21 as a result of the pandemic. The charity finished the year with healthy reserves and continues to enjoy the pledged support of its funders for the forthcoming year.

Reserves Policy

The charity generates a regular income by way of grants from; the Methodist Church, Southlands Methodist Trust and Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd, which is adequate to cover the projected expenditure. In addition, the charity seeks to maintain adequate reserves to enable it to meet any unforeseen expenditure or to cover any short term drop in income. As at 31 August 2021, the free reserves were £282,005 (2020: £367,267) and restricted reserves were £nil (2020: £nil).

Plans for Future Periods

During the forthcoming year the trustees will continue to provide support and guidance for Methodist schools in the state sector and (jointly with The Epworth Trust and the Church of England) for ecumenical schools in providing the best all round education for all their pupils, inspired by Methodist values and ethos and resourced by high quality professional expertise.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, financial and operational risks which the Charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to ensure that necessary steps are taken to mitigate these risks. In particular, they meet regularly to review investment policy, to monitor cash flow and future commitments and to approve all expenditure.

Statement as to the Disclosure of Information to the Independent Examiner

The trustees at the date of approval of this trustees' annual report confirm that so far as each of them is aware, there is no relevant information of which the charity's independent examiner is unaware, and the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

Independent examiner, Nicholas Sladden of RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited, has indicated his willingness to continue in office.

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees' responsibilities in the preparation of financial statements

The trustees (who are also the directors of MAST for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the trustees are preparing the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and applicable law).

The report and financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Under company law, the trustees must not approve financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Trust's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from the legislation in other jurisdictions.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



S Colledge
Director and Trustee

Approved by the Board on 14 December 2021

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Methodist Academies and Schools Trust for the year ended 31 August 2021, which are set out on pages 8 to 13.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the accounts. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently, I express no opinion as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

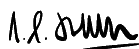
Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Signed:



Nicholas Sladden

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
On behalf of RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited
Chartered Accountants
25 Farringdon Street
London EC4A 4AB

Dated: 15/12/21

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Note	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Income:					
From grants	2	86,000	95,000	181,000	323,500
From charitable activities		-	-	-	2,800
Total income		<u>86,000</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>181,000</u>	<u>326,300</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	3	86,000	180,262	266,262	220,448
Total expenditure		<u>86,000</u>	<u>180,262</u>	<u>266,262</u>	<u>220,448</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		-	(85,262)	(85,262)	105,852
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		-	367,267	367,267	261,415
Total funds carried forward		<u>-</u>	<u>282,005</u>	<u>282,005</u>	<u>367,267</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these Accounts

These unaudited financial statements have been subjected to independent examination. See report on page 7.

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

Company registration number:
07881901

BALANCE SHEET

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets:			
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>312,895</u>	<u>399,076</u>
		312,895	399,076
Liabilities:			
Creditors: due within one year	6	(30,890)	(31,809)
Net current assets		<u>282,005</u>	<u>367,267</u>
Net Assets		<u>282,005</u>	<u>367,267</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds	7	-	-
Unrestricted funds	7	282,005	367,267
Total charity funds		<u>282,005</u>	<u>367,267</u>

For the year ended 31 August 2021, the Trust was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") relating to small companies.

The trustees' responsibilities:

- the members have not required the Trust to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act; and
- the trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 13 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on the 14th December 2021, and are signed on their behalf by



Mr S Colledge
Director and Trustee

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Legal status

The charity (a company limited by guarantee) is incorporated in England and Wales with its registered office address being, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR.

The charity's objectives and aims are disclosed in the trustees' report on page 3.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the items of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants and donations are treated as restricted funds if restrictions on their use are stipulated by the donor. All other types of income are accounted for on an accruals basis, being recognised as income when earned by the Charity.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is allocated to the charity's principal activity where the costs can be identified as being directly related to that activity. All costs that cannot be identified as relating directly to the charity's principal activity are categorised as either support costs or governance costs.

Fund accounting

The general fund comprises the accumulated surpluses of unrestricted income over expenditure, which are available for use in furtherance of the general objectives of the Trust.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific conditions imposed by donors.

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Going concern

The trustees have reviewed the financial forecasts for the Trust and have in particular considered its anticipated income and expenditure commitments for a period of twelve months from the date of approval of this trustees' annual report. The trustees believe that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least the next twelve months and to meet all of its liabilities during that period as they fall due. For that reason, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Taxation

The Trust is a registered charitable company and as such its income and gains falling due under section 471 to 489 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are exempt from corporate tax to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

All financial instruments of the charity are basic and therefore measured at amortised cost.

2. GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Grants				
Methodist Church	95,000	-	95,000	93,500
Southlands Methodist Trust	-	86,000	86,000	50,000
Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd	-	-	-	180,000
	<u>95,000</u>	<u>86,000</u>	<u>181,000</u>	<u>323,500</u>

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3. EXPENDITURE - ANALYSIS OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE

Resources expended on the charitable activity of supporting education in the maintained sector comprised:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Consultancy costs	104,687	86,000	190,687	157,211
SIAMS partnership work	25,000	-	25,000	-
Office and administration costs	41,970	-	41,970	44,453
Legal and professional costs	1,855	-	1,855	3,497
Marketing	-	-	-	500
Governance costs	163	-	163	3,945
Events	2,785	-	2,785	9,330
Training	360	-	360	-
Grants to schools	500	-	500	-
Other	2,943	-	2,943	1,512
	<u>180,262</u>	<u>86,000</u>	<u>266,262</u>	<u>220,448</u>

The trustees received no remuneration for their services in the current or previous year, but 1 individual (2020: 7), who was a trustee was reimbursed for £163 (2020: £2,835) of travelling and subsistence costs incurred.

4. STAFF COSTS

The Trust did not employ any staff during either year.

5. LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Independent Examiners - RSM	1,360	1,311
Legal fees	495	1,711
Inspection fees	-	475
	<u>1,855</u>	<u>3,497</u>

6. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Accruals	<u>30,890</u>	<u>31,809</u>

METHODIST ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

7. RESERVES - THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

2021	1 Sept 2020	Income	Expenditure	31 Aug 2021
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	-	86,000	(86,000)	-
Unrestricted funds:				
General Fund	<u>367,267</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>(180,262)</u>	<u>282,005</u>
	<u>367,267</u>	<u>181,000</u>	<u>(266,262)</u>	<u>282,005</u>
 2020	 1 Sept 2019	 Income	 Expenditure	 31 Aug 2020
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	44,734	50,000	(94,734)	-
Unrestricted funds:				
General Fund	<u>216,681</u>	<u>276,300</u>	<u>(125,714)</u>	<u>367,267</u>
	<u>261,415</u>	<u>326,300</u>	<u>(220,448)</u>	<u>367,267</u>

Restricted funds comprise amounts received from Southlands Methodist Trust towards the costs of the Head of Service role.

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

2021	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Current assets	312,895	-	312,895
Current liabilities	<u>(30,890)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(30,890)</u>
	<u>282,005</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>282,005</u>
 2020	 Unrestricted Funds	 Restricted Funds	 Total
	£	£	£
Current assets	399,076	-	399,076
Current liabilities	<u>(31,809)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(31,809)</u>
	<u>367,267</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>367,267</u>

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No related party transactions occurred during the accounting period to 31 August 2021 (2020: none).