

Trustees' Annual Report for the year

Period start date		Period end date	
From	1 September 2021	To	31 August 2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Bristol Schools Connection
Other names charity is known by	BSC
Registered charity number (if any)	1162067
Charity's principal address	45 Yanley Lane Long Ashton Bristol BS41 9LR

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	Anthony Miles	Chair		
2	Wendy Massey			
3	Emelye Chanot			
4	Sally Martin		Appointed 10 October 2022	
5				
6				
7				
8				

Consultant Development Workers

Jane Gillis	
Liz Ogborne	

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Foundation
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods	New trustees are identified and invited to be trustees by the existing trustees

Section C

Objectives and activities

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

To advance and to develop an understanding of the Christian faith for the public benefit in particular, but not exclusively, by encouraging and enabling churches within the City of Bristol to connect with their local school communities in ways which are positive and supportive, particularly those in less resourced areas.

The Charity will further this purpose through

- Action research (ie piloting new resources/activities), based in one locality, and by providing an exemplar of outstanding practice for others to learn from and adapt to their individual context. These connections will:
 - provide support in the area of spiritual development and pastoral care to students, school staff and families with the aim that this will impact positively upon the wellbeing of the school community to the benefit of the students, staff and families;
 - enable and create safe and imaginative spiritual development and learning opportunities for all ages within both a school context, and an accessible, informal church context;
 - work with churches and schools to connect the life of the two communities to the mutual benefit of both; particularly being mindful of how churches can positively serve communities where the majority of population are of another faith or of no particular faith.
- Providing support for spiritual development and pastoral care to students, school staff and families thus impacting positively upon the school community
- Enabling safe and imaginative spiritual development and learning opportunities for all ages within school and informal church contexts

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)

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission. BSC's charitable purpose is enshrined in its objects "TO ADVANCE AND TO DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH". The Trustees ensure this purpose is carried out for the public benefit by making its support available to schools and churches within Bristol and particularly to those in less resourced areas.

External

- We continued our consultancy work of advising/training/encouraging/coaching churches, church members and church organisations who are connecting with their local schools in the Bristol area. We have been able to resume face to face meetings in 2022, after nearly 2 years of connecting mainly via zoom/telephone.
- Relaunching Christmas in a Box and Easter in a Box – The Movie. In its second year of use 'Christmas in a Box' was hosted by 19 Bristol churches in 20 local schools. 'Easter in a Box – The Movie' was hosted by 15 churches in 17 schools in Bristol. Both resources are now able to be freely accessed via our website thanks to additional website development in the last year. Through our online training programme, we were able to support numerous churches all across the country who offered these resources to their local schools. Once again, we received some great feedback.
- Running Prayer Spaces in School Training sessions – online and in

person. With a particular focus on Outdoor prayer spaces over the last 2 years.

- Hosting various gatherings / training sessions where we encourage, envision, equip churches to connect with their local schools.
- Networking and partnering with key people and organisations in the Bristol area and nationally who have similar and/or complimentary objectives.

Internal

- Receiving training ourselves to keep up to date and further hone our skills.
- Keeping up to date with developments in school/community work across the country, so that we can learn from and implement best practice in the Bristol area.
- Involvement in piloting new projects ('action research') to ensure that BSC consultants continue to learn and develop with regards to engaging with spiritual development in a school and its wider community context – this year the main action research projects were Outdoor Prayer Spaces.
- We developed just under 30 Outdoor Prayer Space Activities and a How to Guide for Outdoor Prayer Spaces.

Section D Achievements and performance in the year

During the year BSC has successfully achieved the majority of the plans and objectives outlined in last year's annual report. We have:

- Offered and delivered successful consultancy, coaching, and training to churches and church members who are connecting with their local schools (and their associated wider communities) and heading up different school/community projects.
We have connected with people and churches all over the Bristol area, often with one-off consultancy advice. We have also worked for longer periods of time with churches in Easton, Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston, Totterdown, Clifton, Stapleton and Frenchay, Wick, Shirehampton, Backwell,
- We relaunched our resources – Christmas in a Box and Easter in a Box – The Movie, with updates as suggested in the feedback we received. We developed a web page for each of these resources, so that the resources can be accessed and downloaded easily and for no charge. This included developing two new promotion videos. We received very positive feedback about the webpages and the relaunched resources. We have not been able to revamp the other pages on our website due to lack of time. We hope to do this in the year ahead.
- We promoted the work of Transforming Lives for Good across Bristol and engaged in the city-wide dialogue about the involvement of churches to provide TLG to the schools that need it most (as highlighted by Bristol City Council). This has resulted in a few churches running TLG programmes.
- We have partnered with Kids Matter to co-host a taster session about Kids Matter. This was

online and well attended.

- We ran two Prayer Spaces in Schools training sessions – one indoors and one outdoors! Several people were inspired by the training sessions and consequently have run their own prayer spaces since the training. We developed just under 30 Outdoor Prayer Space activities for people to use.
- We hosted a supporter and friends of Bristol Schools Connection gathering at the end of September. This was well attended, and many people felt inspired by what was shared.
- We hosted a connect / thank you event for the people that we have been journeying with from churches across Bristol. This event took place in the Spring. It was a wonderful evening of sharing stories, praying and envisioning.
- In the Summer months we spent a good amount of time reconnecting with people in person. These were people that we have journeyed with for some time but have been unable to meet up as easily due to covid.
- We have implemented a concise social media plan throughout the year – with clear messages that reinforce our vision, heart and values.
- We have continued to have good conversations with someone who is hoping to replicate Bristol Schools Connection in another city.
- We ran training sessions for Trinity College students and Bristol Baptist Theological College students – encouraging them to prioritise the connection between church and local schools and the expressions of church that emerge from this context.
- We have deepened our connection with the Methodist Circuit. We have formed an initial connection with a network of Black-led churches.
- We have been invited to speak at various events and forums about our vision and heart as a charity. We have sought to envision and influence the culture of church in relation to being and doing church in the context of the school community.
- We have hosted a couple of prayer gatherings for supporters and friends.
- We have had numerous conversations with people/groups where we have envisioned churches to reimagine church – asking the questions about where and when can we engage with children in our communities?
- We have continued to work on our funding strategy and to secure new and ongoing sources of funding. We are very thankful for the additional support this year of The Burden Trust, St Stephens Soundwell Bristol, Hope Community Church Bristol and the Oakhill Trust. We continue to give thanks for the ongoing generous funding received from Christ Church Clifton and approximately 20 individual supporters.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

BSC was fortunate to receive initial seed funding from a number of trusts and individuals when it was formed in 2015.

However, BSC remains reliant each year on financial gifts from individuals, trusts and churches within Bristol and beyond which can be one-off, ongoing or for a limited period of time. Given this dependency, the trustees believe it appropriate to target reserves at approximately six months of ongoing expenditure plus the budgeted deficit for the next year before new fundraising.

The reserves at 31st August 2022 were £23,800. The projected expenditure and deficit for 2022/23 before new fundraising were £36,000 and £9,000 respectively giving a reserves target of £27,000. Reserves therefore represented 88% of target.

The trustees consider this level of reserves reasonable but continue to seek new sources of income in order to reduce the 2022/23 deficit.

Financial performance

BSC started the year with projected expenditure exceeding pledged income by £9,000. We are very grateful to God for existing donors who have continued to support BSC and for an additional gift of £6,000 from the Oakhill Trust. The overall deficit was £4,100.

Total expenditure increased 13% to £35,600. This was primarily due to a 16% increase in expenditure on Consultants and work on the website originally planned for 2020/21.

We again start the new financial year with a projected shortfall of £9,000. While pledged trust income has increased, for the first time in the seven years since BSC started operating, there is a reduction in ongoing giving from individuals.

We hope to reduce this deficit by increasing the number of churches which support financially and by asking those who support BSC to increase their giving in 2022/23. We are, however, obviously aware of the many constraints on family budgets at this time.

Section F Plans and objectives for 2022/23

In the next year BSC plans to

- Continue to support churches in less resourced areas in the City of Bristol who seek support (coaching/mentoring/training) as they make meaningful connections with their local schools and wider community. This will involve continuing to journey with churches that we have worked with for a while, and making new connections with churches who we have not worked with before.
- Continue to research innovative ways to create intentional spaces for spiritual dialogue within schools and their wider communities across our city.
- Encourage and train more churches in the Bristol area (and beyond via zoom) to deliver Christmas in a Box and Easter in a Box the Movie to their local schools. Run several online training sessions. Run bespoke training sessions for church teams if needed.
- Provide support to any churches running a Christmas or Easter Trial.
- Partner with several organisations and help to promote/widen their work in the Bristol area – Transforming Lives for Good, Kids Matter, Walk Through the Bible.
- Prayer Spaces in Schools – continue to partner with Prayer Spaces in School and promote this valuable way for Bristol churches to serve their local schools. We will offer a couple of online training sessions and some in person training sessions, including 'Come and See' opportunities to view a prayer space in action. This will include both indoor and outdoor prayer spaces.
- Run a Bristol Schools Connection gathering for friends and supporters in October 2022 – to give thanks for the last academic year, share stories and envision churches to prioritise connecting with

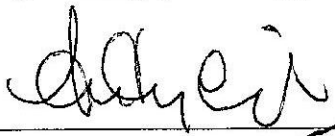
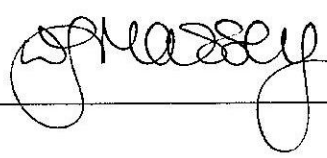
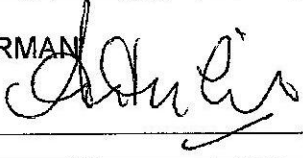
schools – being and doing church in their community.

- Host six monthly prayer gatherings online for supporters and friends. And also host one or two prayer gatherings with Together4Bristol for people involved in education in the city.
- Continue to tell stories, signpost and encourage/envision via our online/social media and website platforms. Continue to keep these platforms up to date – e.g. YouTube, Facebook, website.
- Run training sessions for Bristol Diocese, Trinity Baptist College, Bristol Baptist Theological College – focusing on ways for church to connect and serve their local school(s).
- Continuing to widen our network of church denominations that we work with e.g. Methodists, Baptists, and the Black-Led churches.
- Continue to journey with others who are looking to replicate the model of Bristol Schools Connection elsewhere.
- Envisioning churches across Bristol and influencing church vision and culture – to see connecting with schools as a priority way of being and doing church. This will happen in a range of conversations and forums e.g. speaking at church events.
- Encourage churches to connect with the Secondary Schools in the Bristol area.
- Promote the idea of informal or formal chaplaincy teams in schools. Link with Mike Haslam and his Chaplaincy Network.
- Funding strategy – continue to work on our funding strategy with new and ongoing sources of funding.

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)	ANTHONY CROFTON MILES	WENDY MASSEY
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIRMAN 	TRUSTEE
Date	10 th October 2022	

Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	1st Sept 2021		31st August 2022		1st Sept 2020		31st August 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 £	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts								
Donations from Individuals	10,432	-	-	10,432	13,714	-	-	13,714
Donations from churches and other charities	19,299	-	-	19,299	19,500	-	-	19,500
Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid recoverable	1,815	-	-	1,815	2,280	-	-	2,280
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	31,546	-	-	31,546	35,494	-	-	35,494
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).								
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	31,546	-	-	31,546	35,494	-	-	35,494
A3 Payments								
Development workers	27,383	-	-	27,383	23,751	-	-	23,751
Christmas and Easter in a Box expenses	3,281	-	-	3,281	5,404	-	-	5,404
Insurance	1,521	-	-	1,521	1,505	-	-	1,505
Website and other	3,411	-	-	3,411	894	-	-	894
Sub total	35,596	-	-	35,596	31,554	-	-	31,554
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)								
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	35,596	-	-	35,596	31,554	-	-	31,554
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 4,050	-	-	- 4,050	3,940	-	-	3,940
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	27,847	-	-	27,847	23,907	-	-	23,907
Cash funds this year end	23,797	-	-	23,797	27,847	-	-	27,847

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank accounts	23,797	-	Bank account	27,847	-
		-	-		-	-
	Total cash funds	23,797	-	Total cash funds	27,847	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK
	Unrestricted funds to nearest £		Restricted funds to nearest £		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Gift Aid recoverable	160	-	Gift Aid recoverable	150	-
		-	-		-	-
		-	-		-	-
		-	-		-	-
		-	-		-	-
		-	-		-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-			-
			-			-
			-			-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-			-
			-			-
			-			-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
			-			-
			-			-
			-			-

Signed on behalf of all the trustees

Date

10th October 2022

Signature

Anthony Miles

Print Name

Anthony Miles, Chair

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Bristol Schools Connection

On accounts for the
year ended

31st August 2022

Charity no 1162067

Set out on pages

1 and 2

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 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 Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 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: 10/10/2022

Name:

PATRICK F O'CONOR BSc FCA

Relevant professional
qualification:

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Address:

51 Downs Park West
Bristol, BS6 7QL

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.