

Polish Saturday School in Darlington

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

Period 01 April 22 to 31 March 2023

Trustees' Annual Report

Objectives and activities

The charity was established for the public benefit to advance education; to advance culture and heritage; and to promote racial harmony, in particular by:

- a) Establishing, maintaining and developing the Polish school in Darlington and by providing resources and teaching where necessary to support the education and development of its pupils/the children;
- b) Assisting pupils/ children attending the school (and their families) integrate into the local cultural environment and British society;
- c) Helping children attending the school to sustain their own cultural identity and by ensuring Polish cultural heritage is handed down for the benefit of future generations and for posterity; and by
- d) Nurturing Polish culture, traditions and values.

Nothing in the constitution allows an application of the property of the charity for purposes which are not charitable.

The trustees have complied with the duty in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievements and performance

The period, which was seventh operational year, was the first year when school fully recovered from Covid19 pandemic and was able to have full year of classroom teaching.

Number of pupils as well as attendances stabilised slightly below pandemic levels. For academic year 2022-2023 we have signed 93 pupils in total. Schools seems to be operating normally since then.

In November 2022 we organized another celebration of Polish Independence Day. This event was open for school pupils and their parents. This proven to be great success and encourage school to prepare more open performances in the future. School also organized Santa Clause day which has been open for external guests as well. This event took place in school premises on Main Hall and Dining hall. We did have Santa Clause visit who gave all participating children small gifts. There was tombola, traditional Polish food and plenty of games for the children. In January 2023 school organized Christmas carols concert with invited local band playing and signing together with parents and children. Soon after we started preparation for main annual event – Polish Heritage Day which took place in May 2023. This year this has been celebrated together with Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III as both events happened to be at the same time.

In addition to the regular classes where education of Polish language, history, geography and culture has been delivered, we reintroduced meeting with 'interesting people' This meeting proven to be great success in previous years. This time children had opportunity to meet with Kamil Tankiewicz who told children story of Polish captain Mamert Stankiewicz, and one of the Barclays banking manager who told pupils about work in bank and money in general.

Thanks to the sponsors and volunteers school was able to secure GreenPower project for building electric which later took place in national racing. Volunteered 12 Children from class 'Rysie' were able to participate. They attended extra 1 hours sessions for 9 weeks to assemble car from scratch and then test run it in the school premises. This become great success and school is planning to run it again next year with another class.

Financial review

During the period income received from attendance at the school, grants and other events was £24051 and expenditure £21352. This created surplus of £2699. This is mainly because school returned to classroom education and increase in number of pupils and also thanks to some extra funding from Polish consulate. Also next year school anticipate operational cost to increase due to inflation and cost of living crisis. Therefore this surplus may be mitigated in the next financial year. The bank and cash balance brought forward on 31 March 2023 was £18826. This fund still should secure school operation for a year ahead. The restricted fund were 2 grants from Polish Consulate in Manchester to help cover cost of organization of Polish Heritage Day and also to organize Independence Day and Santa Claus Day. Also grant from 'Wspolnota Polska, which subsidise classroom rental.

School also has opened savings account which currently has a balance of £10030. This is to keep extra funds separate from the current operational account and also to generate some interest.

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Reserves

The charity aims to be in a position to adopt a policy to maintain reserves at a level to enable continued operation for a period of 1 year. The reserves are kept in savings account at the balance of £10030.

Risk management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Structure, Governance and Management

As at 31 March 2023 the Charity Trustees are:

Polish Saturday School in Darlington
Charity registration number 1168672
Period 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Mr Z. Krawiec
Mrs A. Kindel
Mrs A. Wieckiewicz
Mrs E. Mozdyniewicz
Mrs M Palucha
Mr P Urban

There must be at least 3 trustees, and a maximum of 9. A quorum for meetings is 2. New trustees are provided with information about the organisation, its objectives and constitution and sets out the responsibilities of trustees in line with the Charity Commission published guidance. Currently there is 6 Trustees.

The charity relies on volunteers to provide services and also offers remuneration for teachers professional services. Schools has 13 teachers/assistants and 5 volunteers.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name: Polish Saturday School in Darlington
Registered charity number: 1168672

Charity's principal address:
Polish White Eagle Club
2 Maple Terrace
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 7SF

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees report above:

Receipts and payments accounts

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Receipts				
School fees	14401	-	14401	13962
Other events	4585	-	4585	2662
Grants		5065	5065	3592
Total receipts	18986	5065	24051	20216
Payments				
Printing, post and stationery	133		133	237
Classroom resources	418		418	824
Training	484		484	386
Insurance	532		532	480
Teachers fees	13630		13630	9785
Room hire	4293		4293	4301
Travel				30
Events	1364		1364	431
Volunteer expenses	130		130	231
Return of overreceived grant from Wspolnota Polska				1269
Other expenses	368		368	350
Total payments	21352		21352	18324
Net income / (expenditure)			2699	1892
Bank and cash balances brought forward			16127	14235
Bank and cash balances at 31 .03.2023			18826	16127

Note: Restricted funds are grants received to support the Polish Heritage Day, Independence Day and St Claus Day from Polish Consulate in Manchester and from Wspolnota Polska to pay for class hire.

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Statement of assets and liabilities at 31.03.2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Cash funds				
Balance at bank	18826	-	18826	16129
Cash balances	262	-	262	431
	19088	-	19088	16560

Name: Zbigniew Krawiec
Trustee



Name: Piotr Urban
Trustee

