



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Gambia School Support

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 July 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

1176136

Set out on pages

1 to 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/07/2020**

**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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

Name:

Michael Willan

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCA

Address:

The Old Post Office, High Street, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire RG27 8NZ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/08/2020

To

Period end date
31/07/2021

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	72,002	-	-	72,002	57,631
Gift aid	4,218	-	-	4,218	5,711
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	76,219	-	-	76,219	63,342
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	76,219	-	-	76,219	63,342
A3 Payments					
Payments to AVI Schools charity	67,500	-	-	67,500	35,000
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	650
Bank charges	87	-	-	87	112
Travel expenses - Trustees	1,023	-	-	1,023	6,407
Other	-	-	-	-	240
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	68,610	-	-	68,610	42,409
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	68,610	-	-	68,610	42,409
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,609	-	-	7,609	20,933
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	65,620	-	-	65,620	44,687
Cash funds this year end	73,229	-	-	73,229	65,620

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date	Period end date	
From	1 August 2020	31 July 2021	To

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Gambia School Support
Other names charity is known by	GSS
Registered charity number (if any)	1176136
Charity's principal address	Goulds House Greatham Hampshire Postcode GU33 6HA

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	Jonathan Roderick Dale-Harris	Chairman		
2	Edward Peter Dale-Harris			
3	Robert Whitcombe	Treasurer		
4	Nicolas Stevenson	Secretary		
5	Timothy Lodge			
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				

Names of trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution adopted 27 November 2017
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by the members. They will retire at the next AGM but shall be eligible for re-election.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Gambia School Support (GSS) was registered by the UK Charity Commission on the 6 December 2017.

The money raised by GSS is paid into its Charities Aid Foundation Bank account in the UK and is transferred to the 'Gambia Schools Project' bank account held with the Trust Bank of The Gambia.

GSS's implementing partner in The Gambia is an organisation known as the 'Gambian Management Team'.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

The relief of poverty, the preservation of health and advancement of education in The Gambia, West Africa, in particular but not exclusively by helping with nursery school provision by working with nursery schools, the local community, local government bodies and other charities to provide good education, sporting facilities, healthcare and nutritional supplements for the children.

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)

GSS currently assists 4 ECD (Early Child Development) schools (State provision at ECD level is minimal).

The schools we assist must be 'not for profit' community schools and meet certain pre-agreed standards to qualify for GSS's help.

At present the schools have over 800 pupils enrolled.

As required by Section 17(5) of the Charities Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, 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 or duties.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grant making;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

GSS has been operating for 7 years and in the past year we have undertaken 3 new projects:

Pirang Nursery School

Pirang is a large village in a rural 'up country' location. Abandoned some years ago by its European sponsors, the school was rundown with its staff demotivated and underpaid. Working with the village elders and the Ministry of Education GSS refurbished and improved the buildings, provided equipment/teaching materials and teacher training.

Bakary Sambouya Nursery School

A UK charity had assisted this community nursery school for many years, though had decided to close down putting both school at risk. GSS agreed to assist the school which was doing well though 2 classrooms were out of action due to termites attacking its roof timbers. We restored the classrooms, are training the teachers and providing equipment when needed.

Brufut ECD Center

In a joint venture with the Ministry of Education and local community, we have recently created a new nursery school for 185 children. GSS funded the restoration of 5 dilapidated classrooms in the grounds of the Brufut State Primary school, recruited the staff and equipped the school. The new school opened in September 2021.

More generally, we apply our Trustees' business and governance skills, tailored to an African environment, to the schools we sponsor as we believe that this will deliver a sustainable educational model. To date this has stood us in good stead with our donors, local communities in the Gambia and the Ministry of Education.

GSS has no employees and its minimal UK overheads are paid by its trustees. Our trustees donate all their travel and accommodation costs and GSS's accounts are independently examined on a pro bono basis. The trustees make sure that every penny raised is spent in The Gambia.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees policy is to maintain 9-12 months reserves which currently amounts to £40,000 to £50,000.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Fundraising activities

Section F

Other optional information

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)

Jonathan Roderick Dale-Harris

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chairman

Date

8 December 2021