

**CHESTER SCHOOLS  
CHRISTIAN WORK CIO**

**Registered Charity No. 1177175**

**Annual Report  
&  
Financial Statements  
For the year ended  
31st August 2024**

**CHESTER SCHOOLS CHRISTIAN WORK CIO**  
Registered Charity No. 1177175

**Contents of Annual Report & Financial Statements**  
**For the period ended 31st August 2024**

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| <b><u>CONTENTS</u></b>        | <b>Page</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Charity information           | 2           |
| Trustees annual report        | 3           |
| Independent Examiners Report  | 9           |
| Receipts and payments account | 11          |

## **CHESTER SCHOOLS CHRISTIAN WORK CIO**

### **Charity Information**

**For the year ended 31st August 2023**

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|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Charity Number        | 1177175  |
| Working Names         | Chester Schools Christian Work<br>CSCW   |
| Governing Instrument: | Constitution registered by the Charity Commission<br>5 <sup>th</sup> February 2018   |
| Trustees              | Su Chester<br>Philip Goss<br>Lucy Metcalfe<br>Simon Kaye   |
| Principal Address     | Vicars Cross United Reformed Church<br>Oldfield Drive<br>Vicars Cross<br>Chester<br>CH3 5LL  |
| Bankers               | Bank of Scotland<br>33 Old Broad Street London Branch,<br>PO Box 1000,<br>BX2 1LB<br><br>Kingdom Bank<br>Media House<br>Padge Road<br>Beeston<br>NOTTINGHAM<br>NG9 2RS |
| Independent Examiners | G. Mattocks FCA,<br>18 Mulberry Avenue,<br>Turnstone Business Park,<br>WIDNES,<br>WA8 0WN  |

## **CHESTER SCHOOLS CHRISTIAN WORK CIO**

### **Trustees' Report for the year ended 31st August 2024**

The Trustees submit their report and the financial statements for the period ended 31st August 2024.

#### **General Information**

The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation, governed by a constitution registered by the Charity Commission on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

The first trustees were appointed by the constitution. Subsequent appointments are made by the trustees. They serve for an indefinite period.

By an order of the Charity Commission dated 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 the Chester Schools Christian Work Trust Charity Registration number 1041454 was authorised to transfer its assets to the CIO. On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 all the assets of the Chester Schools Christian Work Trust were vested in this charity. The charity is carrying on the work formerly done by the trust from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018.

#### **Objects of the charity as laid down by the Constitution**

To advance the Christian religion in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Schedule to the constitution and in particular in the city of Chester and the surrounding area and primarily amongst children and young people in the schools and other educational establishments in the said area.

This has been achieved by raising money to support Christian workers to go into schools.

#### **Staffing Update**

Our new part-time administrator is well established and embedded in the team and she continues to add much to the team and the organisation through her extensive skills and experience in both education and local church leadership.

We have added a new part-time schools worker to the team with extensive skills and experience in SEND, theatre and schools work. She has been involved with CSCW as a volunteer in her previous employment so was able to transition into her CSCW role extremely quickly and effectively. Her skills contribute to both primary and high school settings with opportunities developing throughout the year. Her addition to the team and organisation has been significant and the trustees are exploring further funding to offer more remuneration.

There is a continued need to focus on developing, training and equipping new volunteers as the demands continue to grow so are excited about the Essential youthwork training. We are looking forward to continuing to serve and support pupils, staff and whole school communities, through promoting the personal and spiritual wellbeing of children and young people in Chester in a variety of ways.

## **Review of the Year**

### **Primary Schools Worker Report**

It has been an exciting and busy year in our local Primary Schools. Andy has led teams who provide Collective Worship in 5 schools each week, meeting over 900 pupils, and 5 schools on a monthly basis meeting around 750 pupils. Andy continues to support local churches who go into their local schools meeting similar numbers of pupils.

We also saw a growth in the number of Prayer Spaces delivered, including one new school, and more in the schools we were already in. Feedback from the pupils showed well over 90% of them found it helpful and gave them a chance to think and reflect on the topic chosen by the school.

Our annual Year 6 transition project, Moving On, continues to be a valuable tool to support the excellent work schools are already doing. We delivered the session to around 1000 Year 6s, including one school we hadn't been into for over 10 years. As well as the Year6 session, we helped out at 2 of our local High Schools with their summer school, which was aimed at the Year 6s to help with the transition to High School. At one of the schools, we ran a workshop which built on the work we were already doing. It was the only workshop that every learner attended and went down very well with learners and school pastoral staff who were in attendance. As the school has a wider catchment area than just Chester, it was good to meet some new Year 6s who we hadn't previously met and also to provide them with a book as they hadn't had our Moving On session.

Looking ahead to the next academic year, we already have a new school to start monthly Collective Worship, and at least one of our schools we are already in, have shown interest in Prayer Spaces which is exciting.

### **High Schools Report (from Team Leader)**

Another more settled academic year benefiting from the addition of a new part-time administrator and another new schools worker from September. Throughout the year we have delivered several ongoing projects as well as reestablishing projects in another high school, facilitating young people to develop resilience, being encouraged and achieving incredible success in many areas. With the addition of another schools worker, we have seen additional projects successfully embed in schools including additional support in CU's as well as a brand new creative, theatre-based project – CREATE – which is run after school weekly. Over the year we have continued to support schools as an Independent Listener/mentor, been a resource and lead for Christian Unions and helped run Prayer and Reflection Spaces. We have delivered engaging and appropriate healthy relationship and sex education through the RSE curriculum, delivered engaging and age-appropriate assemblies, facilitated several rounds of the Kintsugi Hope Mental Wellbeing Group and been a key lead in city-wide youth events.

The Kintsugi Hope groups have continued in the newer format throughout the year with 13 groups (130 students) and we continued to seek to deliver this much needed support in the most impactful way. eg we worked with the school to release the pupils for 1 full day and

covered key topics with greater depth of conversation and relationship in making a bigger positive impact on their wellbeing. We are delighted to see the work continue to develop close links with school pastoral support and act as a signpost to other school support.

The development and support of Christian Unions and lunchtime safe spaces continues to be an important need with a weekly space offering a safe space to discuss and explore faith as well as find support for day to day life. Our aim continues to be to respond to the needs of young people and offer these spaces throughout Chester schools.

Prayer and reflection spaces were delivered to 400 pupils this year including a new immersive experience for Year 9's, utilising Silent Disco equipment. The overall feedback from all reflection spaces is positive including those from the Christian faith, other faiths and no faith.

We delivered RSE lessons to support the PSHE curriculum to over 1000 students from Year 7 – Year 11. We reestablished connections and RSE delivery in another high school and have several lessons already planned for the coming academic year. The feedback from students and staff is extremely positive with monitoring showing a high increase in learners understanding core objectives of the lesson.

There have been several weeks of assemblies delivered at Christmas and throughout the year with more already booked for the coming academic year.

The city-wide youth events continue to bring young people from different schools and congregations together to equip and encourage young people in their faith. Darren continues to partner with Chester youthworkers to lead the monthly network meeting and the monthly youth event, "YthX", as well as contributing to city-wide, mission-focused events and a joint youth weekend away. City-wide youth events are planned for the coming year (including a youth weekend away in October) and we are exploring facilitating after school drop in cafes with church partners. We have also seen an increase in volunteers from partner churches with a need to give them sufficient training. As such, we have trained to deliver the Youthscape Essential training next year having had a high level of interest at an information evening in July.

We have also become a partner organisation of the children, youth and families alliance – part of Cheshire West Voluntary Action which is helping to develop our presence and awareness of the organisation as well as help to signpost to others. We are hoping this partnership develops to benefit the children and young people in our local school communities.

We are seeking to continue to support those most in need through partnership with schools and doing all we can to Inspire HOPE and Unlock POTENTIAL in the lives of our amazing young people in Chester.

### **Schools' worker report**

This past academic year has been full of exciting opportunities, continued development of existing clubs and session and new relationships being formed with schools and organisations across the city. We have seen God on the move within our work this year and we are expectant of what will come next. Below is some categorised overviews and highlights of the past academic year.

#### **Lunch Clubs**

Continuing to work in schools in this way is a joy and such a privilege. At Upton High School, we spent much of the academic year supporting upper sixth form students as they prepared for and dealt with the highs, lows, and pressures of exam season. It was good to be able to offer a safe space where they could have conversations about what was happening, offload issues and spend time stepping out of busy schedules. As we began to pray and think about what the club would look like as they move on from education, we were met with the opportunity to welcome some year nine students into the space. This has been an exciting development where a group of young people have come together for games, chat, and debate about important issues of life and faith. More recently, the group have been able to expand and be used by pupils from other year groups and we continue to explore the best way of hosting this space at Upton High.

Pulse, at Bishops, continues to be a great space in their chaplaincy programme. It is a space for good conversation, a big question each week and sometimes an opportunity to share a thought for the week. It is also a good meeting point for other activities we are involved in throughout school.

#### **Afterschool Clubs**

I have been running 'Create' afterschool club for the past 8 months at Bishops High School. It is an amazing space where creativity meets faith, and we can tackle some important topics through the accessible lens of theatre. In the past summer term, we created a short film 'life in all its fulness' together to explore what it really looks like to live life fully as someone who is known and loved by our creator. It opened great conversations and brought fresh ideas. This new academic year we will be exploring 'words are powerful' and have been included in the large carol service run by the school at the cathedral to perform an original spoken word together. The group is well attended by individuals from year 7-10 and it is a cooperative space to explore faith.

#### **Ethos team and School Support**

This past academic year I have been able to start working alongside Dodleston Primary School assisting with their ethos group and helping to prepare and run prayer and spirituality day. We ran a 'refugee prayer and awareness' day in the summer term that used prayer spaces, theatre and craft to help the learners engage in prayer and Bible stories. As we have started this year, the school have welcomed a new head, and it has been great to be invited back in and be working towards an 'experience Christmas' event in partnership with the school and local church.

A new opportunity that has also arisen this year has been to work with Dee Banks School where they offer specialist education to those with neurodiversity and learning disabilities. We will be exploring how we can help them deliver sections of their PSHE work in a school

where all work pre curriculum level. We will be using theatre practices to aid our work moving forward.

### **Assemblies**

Although it is not a large part of my work, this past year I have been involved with assemblies at Upton High School and Bishops High School. Assisting with the Christmas assemblies has been a great opportunity and working within a team to do this has been great. I was also able to support at Bishops High with their world book day assemblies with an opportunity to talk about the link between storytelling and faith.

### **Prayer Spaces**

It has been great to be involved with the prayer spaces at Bishops High School especially having an opportunity to try using different resources to run the spaces. Using the headphones to offer an immersive experience meant we could approach prayer spaces differently, especially with some of the older learners in School.

### **Extra Events/Workshops/ Neurodiversity.**

One of the highlights of this past year has been the opportunity to be involved in the Neurodiversity pathway research project in partnership with CWVA. We are hoping to run the workshops and interviews in schools which we hope will not only been a great opportunity to strengthen our relationships with schools but also benefit and inform our work with those children and young people with Neurodiversity.

Involvement in the spirituality day for Sixth form at Bishops this last academic year was an exciting opportunity to continue to use creativity, specifically through spoken work, to help young people think about their faith.

My continued involvement in YTHX, partner church work and supporting local youth workers is always a joy and working so closely in partnership with other organisations and individuals wishing to have a positive and kingdom impact on Chester is exciting.

### **Investment Policy**

The charity's policy is to deposit surplus funds with the Kingdom Bank to seek a reasonable interest rate.

### **Fund raising**

The charity relies on donations from individuals, church organisations and other charitable trusts.

### **Restricted Funds**

Funds were held by the charity for six restricted purposes:- Resilience, Primary work, purchase of "Its Your Move" booklets, prayer spaces, CU Bibles, and projects. These are accounted for through the relevant Restricted Funds.

### **Reserves**

During the year the unrestricted 'General Fund' reserves of the charity decreased from £37,421 to £36,038.



### **Redundancy**

In order to give some indication of the Trust's liability for statutory redundancy if it ever became necessary we calculated that if every member of staff who continued employment after 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 had been made redundant by the Trust on 31st August 2024 the charity's liability for statutory redundancy would have been - £9,110

### **Governance and internal control**

Responsibility for day to day running lies with the Team Leader who works within budget constraints set by the Trustees to meet the policy objectives agreed at the Trustees' meetings, and who is accountable to the Trustees. The Team Leader and his team are the major generators of future vision and direction, with the Trustees ensuring that the Trust's activities are both in agreement with its objectives and are achievable.

Trustees are selected by the other members of the Trustee board. The Trustees will meet periodically in the year to review strategy, performance, operating plans, budgets and ministry matters.

### **Safeguarding**

The charity has a safeguarding policy which is reviewed annually,

### **Volunteers**

The charity is hoping both for the continuing commitment of its individual volunteers, and also that local churches will continue to allow their Youth/Children's workers to be involved in the delivery of CSCW activities free of charge. Without them our activities would be much reduced.


### **Public benefit**


The trustees have acted according to, and in line with, the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit (including the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion) in planning the future activities of the charity.

### **Serious incidents**

There were no serious incidents relating to the charity during the previous year that the Trustees neglected to inform the Charity Commission.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on

  
SIMON KAYE  
19/11/24

  
LUCY METCALFE  
19/11/2024



## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of The Chester Schools Christian Work CIO

On accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024

Charity no 1177175

Set out on pages 11 - 13

**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**

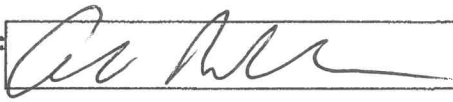
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures 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 (other than that disclosed below \*)

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.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: 

Date: 8/2/25

Name: Giles Mattocks


Relevant professional qualification(s) or body: FCA

Address: 18 Mulberry Avenue,  
Turnstone Business Park  
WIDNES, WA8 0WN

## Section B

## Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

|   |                                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |       |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------|
|  | Chester Schools Christian Work CIO |                  |                  | 1177175          |                  | CC16a |
|   | Receipts and payments accounts     |                  |                  |                  |                  |       |
|   | For the period from                | 1st September    | To               | 31st August      |                  |       |
|   |                                    | 2023             |                  | 2024             |                  |       |
|   |                                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |       |
| Section A Receipts and payments   |                                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |       |
|   | Unrestricted funds                 | Restricted funds | Endowment funds  | Total funds      | Last year        |       |
|   | to the nearest £                   | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ |       |
| A1 Receipts   |                                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |       |
| Gifts and donations from Churches   | 14,838                             | 2,520            | -                | 17,358           | 16,683           |       |
| Gifts and donations from individuals  | 17,598                             | 1,080            | -                | 18,678           | 15,067           |       |
| Other grants and legacies   | 14,250                             | 5,000            | -                | 19,250           | 13,556           |       |
| Tax repayments  | 4,568                              | 104              | -                | 4,672            | 858              |       |
| Fundraising events  | 2,813                              | -                | -                | 2,813            | -                |       |
| Other events  | 513                                | -                | -                | 513              | -                |       |
| Moving on donations   | -                                  | 719              | -                | 719              | 355              |       |
| Pastoral services supplied  | -                                  | -                |                  | -                | 8,294            |       |
| Sundry income   | 50                                 | -                | -                | 50               | 427              |       |
| Bank interest   | 795                                | -                | -                | 795              | 261              |       |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR)   | 55,425                             | 9,423            | -                | 64,848           | 55,501           |       |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).                                       |                                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |       |
|   | -                                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |       |
| Sub total   | -                                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |       |
| Total receipts  | 55,425                             | 9,423            | -                | 64,848           | 55,501           |       |
| A3 Payments   |                                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |       |
| Salaries and pension  | 50,956                             | 7,951            | -                | 58,907           | 49,153           |       |
| Other staff expenses and costs  | 827                                | -                | -                | 827              | 1,100            |       |
| Office costs  | 3,008                              | -                | -                | 3,008            | 2,609            |       |
| Project expenses  | 82                                 | 615              | -                | 697              | 330              |       |
| Moving on   | -                                  | 89               | -                | 89               | 2,250            |       |
| Project expenses RSE  | -                                  | 143              | -                | 143              | 31               |       |
| Events  | 270                                | -                | -                | 270              | 331              |       |
| Training  | 380                                | -                | -                | 380              | -                |       |
| Fundraising   | 10                                 | -                | -                | 10               | -                |       |
| Other   | -                                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |       |
| School pastors  | 820                                | -                | -                | 820              | -                |       |
| Insurance   | -                                  | -                | -                | -                | 517              |       |
| Safeguarding  | 25                                 | -                | -                | 25               | -                |       |
| Refreshments dinners and hospitality  | -                                  | -                | -                | -                | 67               |       |
| Accounts examination  | 300                                | -                | -                | 300              | 276              |       |
| Miscellaneous   | 130                                | -                | -                | 130              | 684              |       |
| Sub total   | 56,808                             | 8,798            | -                | 65,606           | 57,348           |       |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)                                    |                                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |       |
|   | -                                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |       |
| Sub total   | -                                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |       |
| Total payments  | 56,808                             | 8,798            | -                | 65,606           | 57,348           |       |
| Net of receipts/(payments)  | (1,383)                            | 625              | 0                | (758)            | (1,847)          |       |
| A5 Transfers between funds  |                                    |                  |                  | -                |                  |       |
| A6 Cash funds last year end   | 37,421                             | 123              | 0                | 37,544           | 39,391           |       |
| Cash funds this year end  | 36,038                             | 748              | -                | 36,786           | 37,544           |       |
|   |                                    | 9                |                  |                  |                  |       |

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

| Categories  | Details                          | Unrestricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Restricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Endowment funds<br>to nearest £ |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>B1 Cash funds</b>  | Bank of Scotland No1 Current a/c | 465                                | -                                | -                               |
|   | Bank of Scotland No2 Current a/c | 280                                | -                                | -                               |
|   | Business Bank Instant            | 9,138                              | 748                              | -                               |
|   | Kingdom Bank                     | 26,082                             | -                                | -                               |
|   | Church and Charity Reserve       | 73                                 | -                                | -                               |
|   | Cash and cheques                 | 36,038                             | 748                              | -                               |
| (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))      |                                  |                                    |                                  |                                 |
| <b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>                             | Details                          | Unrestricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Restricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Endowment funds<br>to nearest £ |
|   |                                  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|   |                                  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
| <b>B3 Investment assets</b>                                 | Details                          | Fund to which asset belongs        | Cost (optional)                  | Current value (optional)        |
|   |                                  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|   |                                  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
| <b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>         | Details                          | Fund to which asset belongs        | Cost (optional)                  | Current value (optional)        |
|   |                                  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|   |                                  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
| <b>B5 Liabilities</b>                                       | 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                |
| *   | [Signature]                      | SIMON KAYE                         |                                  | 19/11/24                        |
| *   | [Signature]                      | LUCY METCALFE                      |                                  | 19/11/24                        |
|   |                                  |                                    |                                  |                                 |
|   |                                  |                                    |                                  |                                 |
|   |                                  |                                    |                                  |                                 |



|                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Section C Notes on accounts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>C Movements of restricted and general funds</b> |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|                              | Opening       | Receipts      | Payments      | Transfers | Closing       |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
|                              | Balance       |               |               |           | Balance       |
| <b>General Fund</b>          |               |               |               |           |               |
| Undesignated funds           | 37,421        | 55,227        | 56,808        |           | 35,840        |
| <b>Designated funds</b>      |               |               |               |           |               |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary | -             | 198           | -             |           | 198           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>      |               |               |               |           |               |
| Resilience                   | -             | 5,000         | 5,000         |           | -             |
| Primary work                 | -             | 2,951         | 2,951         |           | -             |
| Moving on                    | (616)         | 752           | 89            |           | 47            |
| Prayer spaces                | 714           | -             | 38            |           | 676           |
| CU Bibles                    | 25            | -             |               |           | 25            |
| Projects                     | 0.00          | 720           | 720           |           | -             |
| <b>Restricted Totals</b>     | <b>123</b>    | <b>9,423</b>  | <b>8,798</b>  | <b>-</b>  | <b>748</b>    |
| <b>Overall totals</b>        | <b>37,544</b> | <b>64,848</b> | <b>65,606</b> | <b>-</b>  | <b>36,786</b> |