



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	04	2020		31	03	2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Access Church

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

134 Kestrel Crescent	
Oxford	
Postcode	OX4 6EB

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	Gitau Gakuo	Chairman/Pastor	2016 to current	Access Trustees
2	Rachel Wainaina-Walton	Treasurer	2016 to current.	Access Trustees
3	Janet M. Law	Secretary	2016 to current	Access Trustees
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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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)	CIO - Foundation registered 22 March 2018
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	All trustees are members of the charity and are appointed in accordance with Charity's governing document.

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.

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Section C Objectives and activities

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

The objects of the Church are, for the benefit of the public :-
 (a) to advance the Christian faith in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit;
 (b) to relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit;

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 charity's trustees have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to Public Benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The charity exists to proclaim the Christian faith and to develop the spiritual life of its congregants. This has happened primarily through Sunday services throughout the year. These services, held at the local community centre, are free and open to members of the public both young and old. During these meetings, there are activities for the young to engage in. However, during this period our activities were affected by the lockdown imposed by the UK Government because of the COVID pandemic. We had to change our mode of meeting to virtual meetings only for the duration of the lockdown.

We focussed our work during this period to also contribute to supporting vulnerable people in our communities and in the congregation who were affected adversely by the pandemic. In particular, we purchased food items for several families who were unable to maintain their standard of living due to reduced income. Additionally, we also supported people in the community who lost loved ones through COVID either by making financial donations to help with the costs of arranging funerals.

Our weekly youth group after school moved to online and was held on Tuesdays. This session is relaxed, informal and includes teaching about a relevant topic followed by a discussion. The young people attend consistently without fail and look forward to the session. We are hoping that with the easing of lockdown conditions, Access church will be able to resume the activities that were previously integral to our objectives and are looking at how we can be effective post covid.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

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

- ☐ policy on grantmaking;
- ☐ policy programme related investment;
- ☐ contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The charity exists to proclaim the Christian faith and to develop the spiritual life of its congregants. This has happened primarily through Sunday services throughout the year. These services, held at the local community centre, are free and open to members of the public both young and old. During these meetings, there are activities for the young to engage in.

We believe that the church also exists for the benefit of others. To this end, Access Church organises a monthly Sunday breakfast that is open to the public. However, due to the lockdown imposed due to COVID -19 pandemic, we were unable to provide any hot meals. Instead, we supported vulnerable families by shopping for them as well as linking up those individuals or families that needed long term support to external organisations and partners including the Oxford Food Bank and the Oxford Community Hub.

An important aspect of outreach is work with the community where Access Church organise weekly youth group on Mondays after school. This session is relaxed, informal and includes a meal, teaching about a relevant topic followed by a discussion. The young people attend consistently without and look forward to the session. In August 2018, we participated in a free holiday club in conjunction with another Christian charity. The club attracted children between ages of 4 and 12 from around the local area. Our hope is that we can continue to participate in this event by identifying children who might benefit from the club as well as volunteers who might contribute to the smooth running of the club's activities.

Access Church organises three events annually aimed at married couples. These events are relaxed, informal and full of practical ideas on how to make marriage work and thrive. These sessions are organised around 10 topics ranging from communication, dealing with inlaws, forgiveness, parenting and money management just to mention a few. The sessions were held in February, May and November annually. Due to COVID restrictions, we held the meetings virtually and discussed how to support vulnerable families during this period.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Currently, the charity has no policy reserves, but it is anticipated that the policy will be formally out in place.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

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.

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)	Gitau Gakuo	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	30 Jan. 22	