

Charity registration no:1182413

PREMIER LEARNING  
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

## **PREMIER LEARNING**

### **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

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<b>Trustees</b>	E Frost A Ducker C Lee
<b>Charity number</b>	1182413
<b>Address</b>	Premier Learning C/O 16 School Grove Aston Sheffield S26 2DF
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Emma Broad
<b>Banker</b>	RBS Rotherham S66 0AA

## **PREMIER LEARNING TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st December 2020**

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The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). This report serves the purpose of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

In setting plans and priorities for areas of work Premier Learning has had regard to the guidance from the Charity Commission on the provision of Public Benefit, with particular attention paid to how planned activities will contribute to meeting the objectives of Premier Learning.

### **Objectives and activities**

To advance the education of the public, in particular (but not exclusively) those living in North East England who are unable to communicate due to lack of English language skills, in the subjects of English language and IT skills, through the provision of educational courses and activities.

### **Charitable purposes (Public Benefit)**

Premier Learning benefits the public through the provision of free English skills courses.

An example of a recent specific project successfully completed is Controlling Migration Fund. The project achieved its targets in terms of learner numbers with 96% pass rate for the accredited ESOL courses.

In addition:

- Students who are illiterate in their first language were supported with some small group sessions
- Identifying and addressing the needs of the local community through community development
- Promotion of equal opportunities for everyone
- Adults gaining functional literacy skills

- Increase in the number of registered volunteers from the community
- Increased cultural awareness within communities

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the 2011 Charity Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission regarding public benefit.

Prior to March 2020 we were operating with some 75 students in groups of 15. Exam presentation was planned for March 2020. March 2020 changed our delivery, modelling and rethinking overnight. Thanks to our innovative tutors, we were able to move to online and remote delivery. The next four months were spent providing English classes remotely. The challenges during this period were immense. Quickly, it became apparent that we needed to change our approach from ensuring all were learning to that of more pastoral support. This was difficult as many did not speak English sufficiently, did not have a device, did not have Wifi and certainly did not have the finances to buy devices. This was further linked with the lack of digital skills that our client group did not possess.

With the help of one of our funders, Good Things Foundation, we started the distribution of devices with Internet on legs to those most in need. This helped them learn at home. Our online delivery gained strength and we appointed another tutor to support people remotely. Our delivery continued remotely until July 2020. We continued to receive Controlling Migration funding during this time and this ended in July 2020. As an organisation, we decided that it would not be beneficial to close for the summer period. We secured funding to allow online delivery through the summer.

September marked the return of face to face classes but very differently. The classroom looked very different with only 8 students per class. We now had similar numbers of students but we needed twice the number of sessions and more teaching staff due to limited capacity in the classroom. We were successful in applying for additional funding to allow this to happen for a six month period. We did experience local lockdowns again so classes had to go online and learn remotely. By now, we had a robust system in place to support this where students would book speaking sessions with their teachers remotely and complete a series of activities on Google classroom. We were still facing a digital divide.

It became apparent that we needed to provide English classes for some 100 people being housed locally through the asylum system. We secured funding to operate classes away from the location to support them. This came with additional challenges as we had to organise things remotely with planned face to face delivery for January 2021. There were additional barriers as well. Some had no smart phones, no money and little idea how to access classes. Everything was in place with assessments completed ready to start until January 2021 brought another lockdown. All these plans were abandoned and we provided, where we could, online support but this was very challenging and difficult.

In November 2020 we had another 4 weeks of online classes. By now we were able to see which learners were able to progress online, those who needed more face to face provision and those who needed support remotely. This was certainly a very turbulent and ever changing picture for delivery and adaptation. This is something that we have embraced and now feel confident moving forwards with blended learning.

We have supported 119 students in some form of language learning at our Eastwood School provision. We have supported 86 students with some remote English provision. We appointed 5 learning ambassadors to help support communication, getting people signed up and generally staying in touch with us. We supported 187 people with digital skills. Most of this was done remotely through Zoom and Whatsapp.

The remainder of CMF which was ring fenced and continued despite us having to rebudget many times. Barrow Cadbury, allowed us to operate small classes. Scurrah Wainwright, which was used towards core funding and 121's who needed catch up provision. SYCF small grants and Covid-19 Comic Relief Grant were to support specific groups mostly affected by Covid-19.. Most of this was classed as emergency funding, which was used to support learners in the small groups both face to face and remotely..

We still had targets set as part of the CMF funding. Students were due to be entered in January 2021 but we could not accurately assess students and be confident of their working ability during the lockdown period. It was decided that they would be postponed until face to face delivery could resume. The exams took place in July 2021.

Two full time staff have been employed during this period providing invaluable support. One tutor was given the role of lead tutor, who coordinates online resources and the curriculum with support from the Trustees. It must be noted that during the pandemic staff have been resilient and professional. The whole of our delivery and adaptation could be changing on a monthly basis. They coped extremely well with this.

Classes have resumed face to face. All students are on a blended learning timetable except those at the lowest levels. They now have a class every week. We made the decision to support all students living locally to attend classes at school. The classes, groups and needs are changing all the time. Some students are being moved from the area and so class numbers are fluctuating. The greatest need is at the lower end and the demand for pre-entry is great.

As we move forward into 2021, it has been necessary to diversify our funding sources and we continue to seek further funding to meet our client group's needs.

## **Financial review**

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three- and six-months' expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. 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. The main method of risk management is to take all major decisions at board meetings where all trustees can consider the risks rather than leaving the decision to people who operate the charity on a daily basis who will generally have a view from their particular operational perspective. However, we are constantly seeking new funding and commissioning opportunities for the sustainability of the activities and the organisation.

## **Structure, governance and management**

The company became a registered charity on 1st March 2019.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

E Frost  
C Lee  
A Ducker

Trustees are appointed either if recommended by the trustees or proposed by a member entitled to vote at a meeting. All trustees shall retire by rotation after three years but are eligible for re-election. None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company.

All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

E Frost Trustee

Dated: 17th November 2021

# **PREMIER LEARNING**

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

### **TO THE TRUSTEES OF PREMIER LEARNING**

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#### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Premier Learning**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Premier Learning (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2020.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Name: Emma Broad

Relevant Professional qualification/professional body: specialist travel consultant

Address: Unit 4a, Fort Shopping Park, Erdington Birmingham B24 9FP

Date: 20th December 2021



## PREMIER LEARNING

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
<u>Income from:</u>					
<u>Charitable activities</u>	2	31,600	77,984	109,584	73,827
		_____	_____	_____	_____
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
<u>Charitable activities</u>	6	14,054	55,992	70,046	80,601
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Total charitable expenditure		14,054	55,992	70,046	80,601
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Net (expenditure) income for the year/Net movement in funds					
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Fund balances at 1st January 2020		6010		6010	12,283
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Funds at balance 31 December 2020		45,548		45,548	5509

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

## PREMIER LEARNING

### BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020

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	Notes	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets					
Current assets					
Debtors					
Cash at bank and in hand		45,548		66,075	
Total asset less current liabilities		45,548		66,075	
<b>Income funds</b>					
Restricted income funds			77,984		29,857
Unrestricted funds			31,600		36,218
			_____		_____
			_____		_____
Total funds			109,584		66,075

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 20 December 2021

**E Frost**  
**Trustee**

# **PREMIER LEARNING**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Charity information**

Premier Learning is a CIO organisation currently delivering at Eastwood Village Primary School, Eldon Road S65 1RD.

##### **1.1 Accounting convention**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

##### **1.2 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

## **PREMIER LEARNING**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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## **1 Accounting policies**

**(Continued)**

### **1.3 Charitable funds**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

### **1.4 Incoming resources**

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received. Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

### **1.5 Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

## PREMIER LEARNING

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### Charitable activities

These are costs incurred on the charity's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

##### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including independent examination, strategic management, trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land & buildings	6.67% straight line
Plant and machinery	33% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	15% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

## **PREMIER LEARNING**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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## **1 Accounting policies**

**(Continued)**

### **1.7 Impairment of fixed assets**

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

### **1.8 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

### **1.9 Financial instruments**

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

# PREMIER LEARNING

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### 1.10 Restricted and unrestricted funds

Restricted funds are those received from donors which are subject to restrictions on the purposes for which they may be used. Unrestricted funds are those where there are no externally imposed restrictions and include funds freely available to the charity for expenditure or appropriation to reserves for internally designated purposes.

#### 2 Income from charitable activities

Restricted income funds	77,984	29,857
Unrestricted funds	31,600	36,218
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds	109,584	66,075

#### 3 Expenditure relating to charitable activities

Governance costs	2020	2019
	£	£
	500	500

## **PREMIER LEARNING**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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#### **4 Trustees**

The role of one of the trustees has provided a necessary service to the charity. In order for this to happen the following has been adhered to:

- A written agreement between the charity and the trustee (or connected person) being paid is in place.
- The exact or maximum amount to be paid is specified.
- Procedures are put in place to ensure that we do not allow payments or other benefits to half or more than half of the board as the number of trustees receiving any payment.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

#### **5 Taxation**

The organisation is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from charge to corporation tax on its charitable activities.



## PREMIER LEARNING

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 6 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		Balance at 1 January 2019	Movement in funds		Balance at 31 December 2019
	Incoming Resources £	Resources expended £		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	
RMBC	40024	(40024)	-	-	-	-
Barrow	16400	(16400)	-	-	-	-
SYCF	8870	(8870)	-	-	-	-
Cloth workers	2700	(2700)	-	-	-	-
Lottery	9840	(9840)	-	-	-	-
Donation	150	(150)	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>77984</b>	<b>(77984)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

RMBC: funding as part of the controlling migration fund to provide ESOL and employability classes.

Barrow: Funding Covid-19 for mainstream class provision

SYCF: emergency Covid funding and ladies literacy.

Clothworkers: IT equipment and devices

Lottery: Covid 19 emergency funding

Donation: Member of public for a learner raising funds

#### 7 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year.

