

# BRIDGE SCHOOLS SUPPORT

England & Wales · Charity number 1186110

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Trust

**Registered** 2019-11-01

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 1 Saxon Way  
Waterbeach  
Cambridge  
CB25 9RL

**Phone** 07951787150

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## Activities

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**Objects:** FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT TO PROMOTE THE TEACHING OF ESL (ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE) AND OTHER LANGUAGES IN THE CONTEXT OF TRADITIONAL VALUES IN SUCH WAYS AS THE TRUSTEES THINK FIT, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY MAKING GRANTS TO ORGANISATIONS OFFERING ESL ACROSS THE WORLD.

**Activities:** We make grants to organisations that offer classes of English as a Second Language in the context of traditional values. So far we have supported a school in Ethiopia, a church in Brazil and an online church group. The traditional values include community and family.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

## Geography

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- Brazil
- Ethiopia
- Turkey
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£12,448	£12,324	-	-
2024-04-05	£16,865	£19,770	-	-
2023-04-05	£27,877	£29,389	-	-
2022-04-05	£26,508	£20,853	-	-
2021-04-05	£34,260	£26,356	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Robert Champion Rawlins</b>	Chair	2018-09-20
Christopher Andrew Marston		2021-10-04
Lisa Jane Wilson		2018-09-20
Michael Stephen Champion Rawlins		2025-12-08

**BRIDGE SCHOOLS SUPPORT**

England & Wales - Charity number 1186110

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# Accounts

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CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period 06/04/22 to 05/04/23

Charity name: **Bridge Schools Support**

Charity registration number: **1186110**

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Trust Deed states **the objects of the charity** as:

For the public benefit to promote the teaching of ESL (English as a Second Language) and other languages in the context of traditional values in such ways as the trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by making grants to organisations offering ESL across the world.

#### **Our activities:**

- Making grants to organisations
- Raising donations from the public
- Providing volunteer teachers to the organisations
- Training and mentoring teachers

#### **The organisations helped:**

- **Rio Vivo church** in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It has a ministry of free English classes.
- **Bridge Professional Development Centre** in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It is a business but also upskills employees, trains missionaries and models ESL best practices. It offers soft skills training (leadership, communication, customer service ...) and languages (English, Amharic, Arabic).
- **222 Ministries** serving Iranians worldwide. During the year, they changed their name to **Transform Iran**. We lead their online English classes with students paying a subsidised fee.

#### **Our policy on grant-making:**

- Only to organisations, not individuals.
- Organisations must offer ESL in the context of traditional values.
- Organisations must be in good relationship with one of our trustees or their church.
- If the organisation is a business, we fund non-core costs like scholarships, staff training etc.

#### **Public Benefit:**

The Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance. In particular:

- Our beneficiary organisations serve the general public – anyone who wants the classes. Brazil offers free classes, 222 subsidised classes and Ethiopia upskills employees and disseminates best practice.
- Better English equips students for better social integration, better jobs and better educational opportunities.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Rio Vivo church and Pulse Classes, Brazil**

The English classes are run by the church. We made monthly grants totalling £23,435 to run them. The church used it mainly for the salary of the school leader.

As the year finished in April:

- Michael and Fernanda had decided to leave Brazil and move to England.
- The church had seen many individuals blessed, but few had stayed and it was decided to close it. The premises were vacated. Michael and Fernanda are mentoring one couple to continue a group in their home.
- The classes had their September semester with the usual seven online classes and one in-person class in the church premises. The February semester was reduced to three online classes, in anticipation of the church closing and because of fewer teachers.
- In retrospect, the classes have served their purpose in being a key to reaching out to the community. Several were added to the church, including the couple above and Eva who is doing an internship in Hope Bromley. Many visited the church. But Covid increased online classes at the expense of in-person classes and connection to the church declined.

Alpha was run once with four students from higher classes.

### **Bridge PDC (= Professional Development Centre), Ethiopia:**

In 2020-21, we gave £5k emergency funding to avoid bankruptcy during Covid. There was also civil war. In 2021-22, we decided they must stand on their feet as a business and we only funded £2k for non-core expenses. This year also non-core expenses: £1,419 for a staff retreat, their zoom licence and some books.

Last year, they just survived. This year Abay reports they are nicely covering costs. Their main service of 'soft skills' training is expanding. The customers are NGOs, government bodies and companies. A recent example: leading a team-building retreat for 75 WHO staff. Some English courses continue: a kids summer school; a free course for Ethiopian missionary couples (taught online by Americans in a missionary training college in USA); Rob taught another course while mentoring one of their teachers.

Abay says 'the common thread to my life is knowing God and making disciples'.

In church he is an elder. With Bridge staff, he tries to mentor them and includes weekly prayer (optional because they are of different religious backgrounds). In Bridge, he hosts a group for men aiming to be better fathers. The motive for Bridge's main service of soft skills is bringing to Ethiopia best practice in business management, staff relations etc. At the same time, he is supportive of mission: the free course mentioned above and a recent partnership agreement made with SIM.

As Bridge grows and can pay him more, he hopes to reduce time taking consulting work with British Council.

### **E2GO (English To Go) with 222 ministries:**

Covid turned our dreams of a school in Istanbul into plans for online classes.

In 2020-21 we ran pilot classes with some church leaders as students.

In 2021-22 we trained and gathered a team; we planned for launch.

This year, we had three ten-week courses. The first had 3 levels with 40 students completing. The third had 5 levels with nearly 50 students completing. Students came mostly from Turkey, Iran and UK. The protests in Iran led to government controls on the internet and few able to join our classes. Numbers lost there were matched by our connecting to a London church with lots of Iranians.

The team grew to include Hamid (project leader and teacher), his wife (teacher) and daughter (enroller); two other Iranians in Turkey as teachers; two teachers in UK. Rob directs/advises, but with authority and ownership clearly with 222 Ministries.

We use the English File course books also used in Brazil. This has facilitated two teachers moving between Brazil and Iran. Bible-based worksheets are used occasionally. So far, all students are connected with 222 churches and so they are Christians. 222 allows some staff to spend their time employed by 222 on the project. We pay three of the Iranians a small amount decided by 222. Students pay a nominal fee to 222.

The big event of the year was the tragic earthquake in eastern Turkey about 200km from Mersin. Buildings there were damaged and the population were told to live outdoors for a while. The little church, including four of our team, were focussed on surviving and, bless them, helping others. We made an appeal and gave £2,015 to 222. Our term-4 was delayed, but has just started.

Rob and Richard made a second visit to Mersin to connect with the team.

**Other:**

RB church in **Adelaide** has one class once a week. Alex was mentored by Rob in an Ethiopian class, then started the one in Adelaide, also online. Rob advises and helps.

**Hope English** project in RB Hope Bromley: this has a café and two online classes, both weekly. Good team. Small numbers of students (Ukrainian and various others). Some students bridged to the church. Rob jointly launched it with Lynne Upton who now effectively leads it. One team member being mentored by a teacher in our Iran classes.

**Interaction between the projects:**

Rob is the glue that holds it together. Some teachers have moved from one project to another. Common resources are the English File course book and various websites. Any teacher training comes from the same provider. Each project has its own team meetings (no joint ones).

## Financial Review: 6/4/20 – 5/4/21

		<i>this year</i>	<i>last year</i>
<b>Incoming</b>	Opening balance	5,654	7,904
	Gifts (from 5 churches and 30 individuals)	<u>27,877</u>	<u>18,604</u>
	<b>Total Incoming</b>	<b>33,531</b>	<b>26,508</b>
<b>Outgoing</b>	Brazil, Rio Vivo grants (mainly salary for the school leader)	23,435	17,880
	Brazil, poor appeal		62
	Ethiopia grants (staff retreat, books, zoom)	1,419	2,063
	Iran: grants (salaries, laptops, medical help, training)	1,572	579
	Iran: visit to Turkey by Rob and Richard	686	
	Iran: earthquake appeal	2,015	
	Expenses (zoom, bank ...)	<u>261</u>	<u>269</u>
	<b>Total Outgoing</b>	<b>29,389</b>	<b>20,854</b>
	<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>4,142</b>	<b>5,654</b>

### **Gift-Aid:**

We made our third claim in July: £2,772. We claim annually.

### **Fund raising:**

**Individual:** Through the personal networks and regular prayer letters of trustee Rob Rawlins and school leader Michael Rawlins in Brazil.

**Churches:** All connected with Michael (four Regions Beyond, one from his student days).

Donors specify how their donations should be allocated. If not specified, then 'open'.

### **Pattern of giving:**

#### **30 individual donors:**

- 15 by monthly standing order £6,840
- 11 regulars, 1-3 times a year or in response to our appeals £5,368
- Only 4 donors are new this year 800

#### **5 churches:**

- 3 give monthly: RB-Hope, RB-Birmingham, Michael's Liverpool church £3,810
- 2 gave large one-off gifts: RB-Penge, RB-Adelaide £8,296

**Gift-Aid** on the previous year's donations £2,772

The regular giving and the two large church gifts made us in healthy balance most of the year. In December, we dipped to nearly zero and Rob made an appeal in his prayer letter. That brought us back to a healthy balance for the rest of the year.

### **Reserves:**

We have none, except the bank balance. If donations dry up, so will our grants. Recipients know our monthly commitment depends on continuing donations. We have no other commitments, so we need no reserves.

### **Voluntary:**

Expenses were £261: mainly a zoom licence and bank charges.

Rob and Richard's second trip to visit the Iranian team cost £686: mainly flights and car hire. We now pay three Iranians for their time at the rate decided by 222. This amount is only about £100pm (between them) - low because of exchange rates and 222's tight belt.

All other outgoings were grants. Other teachers are voluntary. The trustees are voluntary. Rob's running the charity is voluntary.

### **Risk:**

If Rob were off sick, no one is currently available or trained to run the charity.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document is a trust deed.

Trustees:

- Meet 3 times a year. Rob sends an update report before each meeting.
- This year we have had our minimum of 3 trustees.
- Lisa completed her 3-year commitment and was re-appointed for 2 years. Rob and Chris should resign (and be re-appointed hopefully) at the next AGM.
- Gary Carvosso was invited to the last meeting. He agreed to two more as invitee.
- New trustees will receive our document 'Being a trustee of BSS' and will be assigned an existing trustee as a mentor.

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name: Bridge Schools Support  
Other names used: none  
Registered charity number: 1186110  
Address: 320 Hither Green Lane, London SE13 6TS  
Trustees: Robert Champion Rawlins (chairman) }  
Lisa Jane Wilson } all acted all year  
Christopher Andrew Marston }  
Runs the charity: Rob Rawlins

## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

Robert Champion Rawlins

Robert Champion Rawlins	
-------------------------	--

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Chair

Chair	
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Date

xx/x/2023

xx/x/2023
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# Bridge Schools Support

## Statement of Financial Activities: 2022-2023

from 6/4/2022 to 5/4/2023

### Incomings

Opening balance on 6/4/2022	5,654.40
Gifts: Unrestricted	6,913.68
Gifts: Restricted: Rio Vivo Support	20,963.30
<b><u>Total incomings:</u></b>	<b>33,531.38</b>

### Less Outgoings

From Unrestricted account to Ethiopia	1,419.30
From Unrestricted account to Iran	4,273.40
From Restricted ac to Rio Vivo Support	23,435.00
Expenses (detail below)	<u>261.22</u>
<b><u>Total outgoings:</u></b>	<b>29,388.92</b>

**Closing balance on 5/4/2023**                      **4,142.46**

### Expenses detail:

Zoom licence	143.88
EFL resources	44.54
Bank charges	<u>72.80</u>
<b><u>Total Expenses:</u></b>	<b>261.22</b>

## Statement of Assets and Liabilites on 5/4/2023

**Assets:** Only cash held in bank (the closing balance)                      4,142.00

**Liabilities:** None. We only receive gifts and make grants.  
We make no commitments to our beneficiaries for future grants.  
They know grants are dependent on gifts received.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

*RcRawlins*

Robert Champion Rawlins. Chair of Trustees

117 Marvels Lane,  
Grove Park,  
London SE12 9PP  
16<sup>th</sup> May, 2023

To: Trustees of Bridge Schools Support

As an independent examiner of the accounts of Bridge Schools Support, I affirm that I have no personal relationship with the trustees.

Having examined the report, I have found no discrepancies.

**RKPlummer**

Richard Plummer

**BRIDGE SCHOOLS SUPPORT**

England & Wales - Charity number 1186110

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# Accounts

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CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period 06/04/21 to 05/04/22**

**Charity name: Bridge Schools Support**

**Charity registration number: 1186110**

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Trust Deed states **the objects of the charity** as:

For the public benefit to promote the teaching of ESL (English as a Second Language) and other languages in the context of traditional values in such ways as the trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by making grants to organisations offering ESL across the world.

#### **Our activities:**

- Making grants to organisations
- Raising donations from the public
- Providing volunteer teachers to the organisations
- Training and mentoring teachers

#### **The organisations helped:**

- **Rio Vivo church** in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It has a ministry of free English classes.
- **Bridge School of Languages** in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It is a business but also subsidises poorer students, upskills employees, trains missionaries and models ESL best practices. During the year, the owner Abay changed its name to **Bridge Professional Development Centre** to reflect their growing provision of soft skills training (leadership, communication, customer service ...). Their ESL continues.
- **222 Ministries** serving Iranians worldwide. We are helping them establish online English classes with students paying a subsidised fee.

#### **Our policy on grant-making:**

- Only to organisations, not individuals.
- Organisations must offer ESL in the context of traditional values.
- Organisations must be in good relationship with one of our trustees or their church.
  
- If the organisation is a business, we do not fund core costs but scholarships, staff training etc.

#### **Public Benefit:**

The Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance. In particular:

- Our beneficiary organisations serve the general public – anyone who wants English lessons. Brazil offers free classes, 222 subsidised classes and Ethiopia (although charging commercial fees) includes some helping of poorer students.

- Better English equips students for better social integration, better jobs and better educational opportunities.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Rio Vivo church, Brazil**

The English classes are run by the church. We made monthly grants totalling £17,880 to run them. The church used it mainly for the salary of the school leader.

Before Covid, classes were all in the church premises and the teacher was present or by Skype from abroad. With Covid, only Beginner classes were in the premises and the rest by zoom. This enabled more students, some students from outside Rio and more native teachers. This year spanned three semesters. They had 1-2 Beginner classes in the premises taught by Michael and 6-8 online classes taught by 3 Brazilians and 5 from abroad. In the last semester, 90 students enrolled. About half continued all semester – this dropout rate is usual for their classes being free and online.

They ran Alpha twice – at the end of each semester for 7 sessions to the 3 higher classes. 25 attended the first, with good response from several. Several attended the second with 5 finishing.

A young English couple went out for 4 months to serve the church, including the classes.

In June, we increased our monthly grant to include part-salary for the evangelist Gustavo, because his work includes reaching out to and following up students.

### **Bridge PDC (= Professional Development Centre), Ethiopia:**

Having given over £5,000 last year, which kept them from going bankrupt during Covid, we declined further bail-out. Praise God, Abay was able to steer them to profitability with a growing provision of soft skills training (leadership, communication, customer service ...) to a variety of clients (Compassion, an International school, various companies). Our grants have reverted to non-core business costs: £2,063 covering a staff retreat, ESL training for 3 staff, books and a zoom licence.

Abay changed the name from Bridge School of Languages to Bridge PDC. Languages are now secondary in importance, but continue: English summer school for kids; English for individuals and Compassion staff (4 of our volunteers taught courses by zoom); Arabic to prepare SIM missionaries.

Abay chooses the best teachers and staff available, not limited to evangelical Christians. But he seeks to keep God at the heart and runs a weekly bible study with staff. His vision is to be the leading training provider in Ethiopia.

### **E2GO classes for Farsi speakers with 222 ministries:**

All of last year, we ran pilot classes finishing with 3 levels. One of these continued to the summer of this year. Rob ran 2 months of Teacher Training for 4 Iranians. Then there was a long wait, while 222 agreed the details of the project and its leader. Once Hamid was appointed, Rob and Richard visited him and project administrator Shahrzad in two cities in Turkey. Term-1 began in the last week of the year with about 50 students in 5 zoom classes, all taught by English teachers with Iranian assistants.

The project is named E2GO = English to Go. Students outside Iran pay a nominal amount. E2GO has details and enrolment on the Iranian churches' Cheshme app. Advertising is on the app and at the big online Persian Sunday service. We have sent no money this year because Hamid and Shahrzad are employed by 222 and run the project as part of their employment.

### **Volunteers:**

14 volunteers taught 1-2 lessons a week and 2 taught 4 lessons a week. There were 3 Brazilian teachers, 6 English, 1 South African and 1 American plus 5 Iranian assistants. One Australian was mentored by us, then started a project in Adelaide.

### **Financial Review:** 6/4/20 – 5/4/21

		<i>this year</i>	<i>last</i>
<i>year</i>			
<b>Incomin g</b>	Opening balance	7,904	1,221
	Gifts (from 3 churches and 28 individuals)	<u>18,604</u>	<u>33,039</u>
	<b>Total Incoming</b>	<b>26,508</b>	<b>34,260</b>
<b>Outgoin g</b>	Brazil, Rio Vivo grants (mainly salary for the school leader)	17,880	13,498
	Brazil, poor appeal (food distribution)	62	6,483
	Ethiopia grants (staff retreat, training, books, zoom)	2,063	5,497
	Iran expense (trip by Rob and Richard)	579	420
	Expenses (zoom licence, ESL resources, bank charges)	<u>269</u>	<u>458</u>
	<b>Total Outgoing</b>	<b>20,854</b>	<b>26,356</b>
	<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>5,654</b>	<b>7,904</b>

### **Gift-Aid:**

We made our second claim in October: £2,771. We claim annually.

### **Fund raising:**

- Through the personal networks and regular prayer letters of trustee Rob Rawlins and school leader Michael Rawlins in Brazil.
- One quiz (Poor attendance, no immediate donations. Not worth the effort.)

Donors specify how their donations should be allocated. If not specified, then 'open'.

Donors are spread among Rob's and Michael's networks. Generous giving came from Rob's church, Hope (£1,745) and 8 members (£5,580).

### **Pattern of giving + year-end position:**

The backbone of support is monthly giving from 3 churches and 12 individuals making nearly half our income. The other 16 individuals give regularly at longer intervals or give in response to appeals. There was only one new donor.

The drop in giving from last year to this was mainly due to the generous response to the poor appeal last year.

We started the year with the large balance of nearly £8,000, following an appeal in January in Rob's prayer letter and a personal letter to previous donors. His November prayer letter said Brazil's pot had run out and we were drawing on the open pot. This resulted in 4 gifts of £1225. At the same time, Hope Church and RB Birmingham started monthly giving of £300 between them. An appeal by prayer letter in March resulted in 8 extra gifts of nearly £5,000.

The year closed with £5,654 in the bank.

### **Reserves:**

We have none, except the bank balance. If donations dry up, so will our grants. Brazil knows our monthly commitment depends on continuing donations. We have no other commitments, so we need no reserves.

**Voluntary:**

Expenses were £269. Rob and Richard's trip to visit the Iranian team cost £579. All other outgoings were grants. All our teachers are voluntary. The trustees are voluntary. Rob's running the charity is voluntary.

**Risk:**

If Rob were off sick, no one is currently available or trained to run the charity.

**Prophecy:**

At a prayer meeting launching the Iranian classes, the local Iranian pastor had a picture of streams merging. Richard added 'and flowing into the sea'. We interpret that as our branches (Brazil, Iranians, Ethiopia, Bromley) working/merging together and impacting the sea of God's kingdom. We already intended more working together.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The governing document is a trust deed.

Trustees:

- Meet 3 times a year. Rob sends an update report before each meeting.
- This year we have had our minimum of 3 trustees.
- Chris completed his 2-year commitment and was re-appointed. Lisa and Rob were within their 3 and 4 year commitments.
- We began to look for another trustee and asked three people, but all declined.
- New trustees will receive our document 'Being a trustee of BSS' and will be assigned an existing trustee as a mentor.

## **Reference and Administrative details**

Charity name: Bridge Schools Support  
Other names used: none  
Registered charity number: 1186110  
Address: 320 Hither Green Lane, London SE13 6TS  
Trustees: Robert Champion Rawlins (chairman) }  
Lisa Jane Wilson } all acted all  
year Christopher Andrew Marston }  
Runs the charity: Rob Rawlins

## **Declarations**

**The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.**

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

**Signature(s)**

RcRawlins

**Full name(s)**

Robert Champion Rawlins

**Position (eg  
Secretary, Chair, etc)**

Chair

**Date**

26/9/2022

# **Bridge Schools Support: Accounts 2021-2022**

## **Statement of Financial Activities: 2021-2022**

from 6/4/2021 to 5/4/2022

### **Incomings**

Opening balance on 6/4/2021	7,903.96
Gifts: Unrestricted	3,562.56
Gifts: Restricted: Rio Vivo Support	14,949.03
Gifts: Restricted: Rio Vivo Poor	<u>92.50</u>
<b><u>Total incomings:</u></b>	<b>26,508.05</b>

### **Less Outgoings**

From Unrestricted account to Ethiopia	-2,062.97
From Unrestricted account to Iran	-579.11
From Restricted ac to Rio Vivo Support	-17,880.00
From Restricted ac to Rio Vivo Poor	-62.50
Expenses (detail below)	<u>-269.07</u>
<b><u>Total outgoings:</u></b>	<b>-20,853.65</b>

**Closing balance on 5/4/2022**      **5,654.40**

### **Expenses detail:**    *IE recommended last year this be added*

EFL resurces	80.39
Zoom licenece	143.88
Bank fees	<u>44.80</u>
<b><u>Total Expenses:</u></b>	<b>269.07</b>

Signed on behalf of the Trustees **RcRawlins**    09/26/2022  
Robert Champion Rawlins. Chair of Trus

## **Statement of Assets and Liabilites    on 5/4/2022**

**Assets:**    Only cash held in bank (the closing balance)

### **Accounts 2021-22**

	Total Unrestricted	Ethiopia
Brought forward on 6/4/21	7,903.96	2,215.36
In: Gifts during year	18,604.09	3,562.56
Out: Grants during year	-20,584.58	-2,062.97
Out: Expenses	-269.07	-269.07
Closing balance on 5/4/22	5,654.40	-2,062.97
Closing balance carried forward on 6/4/22	5,654.40	2,896.77      0.00

**Liabilities:**    None. We only receive gifts and make grants.  
We make no commitments to our beneficiaries for future grants.

They know grants are dependent on gifts received.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees **RcRawlins** 09/26/2022  
Robert Champion Rawlins. Chair of Trus

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Iran	RV Spt	RV Poor
	5,688.60	
	14,949.03	92.50
-579.11	-17,880.00	-62.50
-579.11	2,757.63	30.00
0.00	2,757.63	0.00

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117 Marvels Lane,  
Grove Park,  
London SE12 9PP  
19<sup>th</sup> September 2022

To: Trustees of Bridge Schools Support

As an independent examiner of the accounts of Bridge Schools Support, I affirm that I have no personal relationship with the trustees.

Having examined the report, I have found no discrepancies. However, I would make the following recommendation.

That there is a greater accountability for grants sent to Ethiopia, e.g. receipts for retreats.

Richard Plummer

**BRIDGE SCHOOLS SUPPORT**

England & Wales - Charity number 1186110

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# Accounts

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CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period 06/04/20 to 05/04/21**

**Charity name: Bridge Schools Support**

**Charity registration number: 1186110**

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Trust Deed states **the objects of the charity** as:

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#### **Our activities:**

- Making grants to organisations
- Raising donations from the public
- Providing volunteer teachers to the organisations
- Training and mentoring teachers

#### **The organisations helped:**

- **Rio Vivo church** in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It has a ministry of free English classes.
- **Bridge School of Languages** in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It is a business but also subsidises poorer students, upskills employees, trains missionaries and models ESL best practices.
- **222 Ministries** based in UK, but serving Iranians worldwide. We are helping them establish online English classes with students paying a subsidised fee.

#### **Our policy on grant-making:**

- Only to organisations, not individuals.
- Organisations must offer ESL in the context of traditional values.
- Organisations must be in good relationship with one of our trustees or their church.
  
- If the organisation is a business, we do not fund core costs but scholarships, staff training etc.

#### **Public Benefit:**

The Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance. In particular:

- Our beneficiary organisations serve the general public – anyone who wants English lessons. Brazil offers free classes, 222 subsidised classes and Ethiopia (although charging commercial fees) includes some helping of poorer students.
- Better English equips students for better social integration, better jobs and better educational opportunities.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Rio Vivo church, Brazil**

The English classes are run by the church. We made monthly grants totalling £13,498 to run the classes. The church used it mainly for the salary of the school leader. We provided 6 volunteers to teach online from abroad. We mentored 3 Brazilian volunteer teachers and paid for ESL training for 2 of them. The classes are free to the students. About 80 adult students improved their English. This gives social benefit and greater employability. Several have joined the church.

The church made an emergency Covid appeal to our donors for the poor. We received £6,483 in donations and transferred the money. The church bought food and distributed it to known needy families and offered personal follow-up.

### **Bridge School, Ethiopia:**

We made grants totalling £5,497. Part was relocation costs to a cheaper premises in better location. Most was emergency funding for the school to survive the Covid business downturn. Bridge subsidises poorer students, upskills employees, trains missionaries and models ESL best practices. We chose to stretch our policy on grant-making to cover core business costs and enable the business to survive. It has.

We provided 4 volunteers to teach 1:1 online classes as part of Covid recovery.

### **222 ministries to Iranians:**

We provided 3 volunteers to teach online classes to 10 adults in a pilot program. We mentored 1 Iranian volunteer teacher. We made grants of £420 for a laptop and an ESL training course.

The students are adult refugees. English will help their employability, educational opportunities and future integration into host countries.

### **Volunteers:**

14 volunteers taught 1-2 lessons a week. They were British, American, Brazilian & Iranian.

## **Financial Review:** 6/4/20 – 5/4/21

<b>Incoming</b>	Opening balance	1,221
	Gifts (from 5 churches and about 60 individuals)	33,039
	<b>Total Incoming</b>	<b>34,260</b>
<b>Outgoing</b>	Brazil, Rio Vivo grants (mainly salary for the school leader)	13,498
	Brazil, poor appeal (food distribution)	6,483
	Ethiopia grants (school relocation, business survival)	5,497
	Iran grants (laptop, training course)	420
	Expenses (mostly teaching resources)	458
	<b>Total Outgoing</b>	<b>26,356</b>
	<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>7,904</b>

### **Gift-Aid:**

HMRC registered us and we made our first claim in 2020 (£4,244). We will make annual claims.

### **Fund raising:**

- Through the personal networks and regular prayer letters of trustee Rob Rawlins and school leader Michael Rawlins in Brazil.
- Two quizzes

Donors specified how their donations should be allocated. If not specified, then 'open'.

Hope Church (Rob's church) and its members made the most contributions.

### **Year-end position:**

A successful appeal in January raised £6,000 and then a church group donated £3,000. Meanwhile we continued our monthly grant to Brazil. At year-end we had a healthy £7,904 – enough to meet the monthly Brazil grant until December (with continuing Standing Order donations).

### **Reserves:**

We have none, except the bank balance. If donations dry up, so will our grants. Brazil knows our monthly commitment depends on continuing donations. We have no other commitments, so we need no reserves. However we have hopes (and prayers) for ongoing donations to fund more grants.

### **Voluntary:**

The accounts show no wages nor salary. Apart from £358 for expenses, all outgoings were grants. All our teachers are voluntary. The trustees are voluntary. Rob Rawlins, who runs the charity, is voluntary.

### **Risk:**

If Rob Rawlins were off sick, no one is currently available or trained to run the charity.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The governing document is a trust deed.

Trustees:

- Meet 3 times a year. Rob Rawlins sends an update report before each meeting.
- This year we have had our minimum of 3 trustees.
- All were still within their 2, 3 or 4 year commitments.
- New trustees will be found and invited by existing trustees.
- New trustees will receive our document 'Being a trustee of BSS' and will be assigned an existing trustee as a mentor.

## **Reference and Administrative details**

Charity name:	Bridge Schools Support
Other names used:	none
Registered charity number:	1186110
Address:	320 Hither Green Lane, London SE13 6TS
Trustees:	Robert Champion Rawlins (chairman) } Lisa Jane Wilson } all acted all
year	Christopher Andrew Marston } Rob Rawlins }
Runs the charity:	Rob Rawlins

## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

RcRawlins

Full name(s)

Robert Champion Rawlins

Position (eg  
Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Date

4/10/21

## Bridge Schools Support

### Statement of Financial Activities: 2020-2021

from 6/4/2020 to 5/4/2021.

**Incomings:**

Opening balance on 6/4/20	1,220.73	
Unrestricted gifts	4,762	
Restricted gifts	28,277	
<b>Total Incomings:</b>	<b>34,260</b>	

**Less Outgoings:**

From Unrestricted account	420	To Turkey, 222
ministries		
From Restricted accounts	25,478	
Expenses *	458	
<b>Total Outgoings:</b>	<b>26,356</b>	

**Closing balance on 5/4/20: 7,904**

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities      On 5/4/21.

**Assets:** Only cash held in our bank account

<b><u>Accounts 2020-21</u></b>	Total	Unrestric ted	Ethiopi a	Rio Vivo	RV Poor Appeal
Brought forward	1220.7 3	1218.03	100	- 1079.9 3	982.63
In: Gifts during year		4762.16	2245	20531. 98	5500.14
Out: Grants during year		420	5496.9 4	13,498	6,483.14
Out: Expenses		192.52		265.45	
Closing balance	7903.9 6	5367.67	- 3151.9 4	5688.6 0	-0.37
<b>Adjust closing balance</b>	<b>7903. 96</b>	<b>2215.36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5688. 60</b>	<b>0</b>

**Liabilities:** None. We only receive gifts and make grants. We make no commitment to our beneficiaries of future grants. They know grants are dependent on gifts received.

**.\* Expenses detail**

EFL resources                      294

Zoom licence	143
Conference fee	21

*Signed on 4/10/21 on behalf of the Trustees*      **RcRawlins**  
Robert Champion Rawlins, Chair of  
Trustees.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name: Bridge Schools Support

On accounts for the year ended

5/4/21

Charity no (if any)

1186110

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 5/4/21.

As the charity's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]. Delete [ ] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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 accounts to be reached.

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

Signed:

Richard Plummer

Date:

20/9/21

Name:

RICHARD PLUMMER

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

N/A