



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:

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.
- **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>Incomin g</b>	Opening balance	1,221
	Gifts (from 5 churches and about 60 individuals)	33,039
	<b>Total Incoming</b>	<b>34,260</b>
<b>Outgoi ng</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	1220.73	1218.03	100	- 1079.93	982.63
In: Gifts during year		4762.16	2245	20531.98	5500.14
Out: Grants during year		420	5496.94	13,498	6,483.14
Out: Expenses		192.52		265.45	
Closing balance	7903.96	5367.67	- 3151.94	5688.60	-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.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### 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

IER

ADDRESS: 117 Marvels Lane  
London SE12 9PP

Oct 2018