



**NEXT STEP FOUNDATION
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS**

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

NEXT STEP FOUNDATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr D Wellesley-Wesley Mr C Bonas Mr J Higgins
Charity number	1191176
Company number	CE023817
Registered office	Victoria House 1a Gertrude Street London SW10 0JN
Independent examiner	Shorthouse & Martin Limited Worthy House 14 Winchester Road Basingstoke Hampshire RG21 8UQ

NEXT STEP FOUNDATION

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

The trustees present their report and accounts for the Period ended 30 September 2021.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note to the accounts and comply with the charity's constitution and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in October 2019.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), governed by its 'Association' Model Constitution dated 6 May 2020.

The trustees who served during the Period were:

Mr D Wellesley-Wesley

Mr C Bonas

Mr J Higgins

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

(1) At every [subsequent] annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one-third shall retire from office, but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she shall retire;

(2) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;

(3) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub-clause (5) of this clause;

(4) The members of the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;

(5) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Organisational structure

Mr C Foot was appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on 13 September 2021.

Risks

The trustees has 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.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are to advance education for the public benefit by delivering courses to students living in the UK who come from underprivileged backgrounds in order to help them make successful applications to undergraduate programmes at UK Universities. For the purpose of this clause, an 'underprivileged background' means that a student adheres to one or more of UK Universities' widening participation criteria.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

The main activity of the charity is delivering a 10-month online university preparation programme. To do this, it is essential to establish and maintain relationships with partner schools and multi-academy trusts (MATs), develop resources and materials, conduct a student selection process, onboard, train and employ tutors and experts to deliver the sessions, evaluate the programme and host some events to bring together the community of participants and alumni.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

In shaping objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

The charity relies on grants and donations to cover its operating costs. Working in close partnership with multi-academy trusts and schools is critical to select eligible students from underprivileged backgrounds and ensure accessibility.

Use of volunteers

Some voluntary contributions were made by tutors and expert speakers in delivering sessions or extension lectures.

Achievements and performance

Charitable achievements

If you are from a poor background, the chances of attending Oxford or Cambridge is 1 in 1500, compared to 1 in 20 if you attend a private school (Impossible? A Social Mobility Report: Teach First).

The Next Step Foundation is changing these odds. The last four cohorts have a 32% Oxbridge acceptance rate which rivals Eton College with 33%.

Since 2016 the foundation has supported high ability students from disadvantaged backgrounds to gain places at the UK's most selective universities with astonishing rates of success.

In this year we enrolled 60 students onto the programme and 98% were offered places at Russell Group universities while 32% of Oxbridge applicants were made an offer.

Children from the most deprived backgrounds have a life expectancy that is 9.3 years less than that of their wealthier peers.

We have a chance to give more students consistent access to exceptional tutors who can support them to bridge the gap in skills and knowledge that will help them reach their educational ambitions.

By ensuring that our scholars not only gain places at the most selective institutions but also are prepared to excel once they are there. The knock-on effect of our growing community of alumni can serve to improve the life chances not only of participants, but also their community, providing support and role models to inspire their peers and future generations.

Our goal was to continue to deliver the excellent track record of results for 60 students and to set out a road map for growing the following cohort, evaluating the impact of specific aspects of the programme including development of study skills as well as socio-emotional skills to best equip them for their next steps. This was achieved and in the following year we aim to double our numbers to 120 students and conduct our first complete impact evaluation.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Fundraising achievements

Securing donations over £100,000 and grant funding of £30,000 has given us the financial confidence to double the size of our provision and bringing on a new CEO as a direct employee of the charity.

Financial review

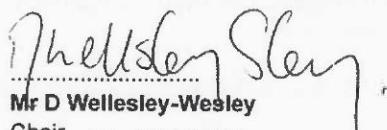
The charity's financial position at the end of the period is considered to be healthy. With an established programme and network of professionals to support in delivering it, we are able to plan with confidence to double in numbers and ensure the necessary level of support costs. In the following year, it is intended to approach our wider network of potential donors and secure larger grants (with the benefit of published accounts and an established track record of impact).

Reserves policy

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and ensuring that we can offer security to our partner schools and participating students to be able to deliver the programme to increasing numbers of students.

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-month's 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. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the period.

On behalf of the board of trustees



Mr D Wellesley-Wesley

Chair 01.02.2022

Dated:

NEXT STEP FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NEXT STEP FOUNDATION

I report on the accounts of the charity for the Period ended 30 September 2021, which are set out on pages 5 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also the directors of Next Step Foundation for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this Period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011, the 2011 Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- (iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Shorthouse & Martin Ltd

Shorthouse & Martin Limited

Worthy House
14 Winchester Road
Basingstoke
Hampshire
RG21 8UQ

Dated: 25/02/2022

NEXT STEP FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>				
Donations and legacies	1	101,010	-	101,010
Incoming resources from charitable activities	2	30,000	10,000	40,000
Total incoming resources		131,010	10,000	141,010
<u>Resources expended</u>				
	3			
<u>Costs of generating funds</u>				
Costs of generating donations and legacies		2,562	-	2,562
Net incoming resources available		128,448	10,000	138,448
<u>Charitable activities</u>				
University preparation programme		32,505	-	32,505
Governance costs		1,620	-	1,620
Total resources expended		36,687	-	36,687
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		94,323	10,000	104,323
Fund balances at 7 September 2020		-	-	-
Fund balances at 30 September 2021		94,323	10,000	104,323

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

NEXT STEP FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

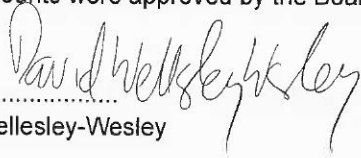
	Notes	2021 £	£
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		140,943	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(36,620)	
Total assets less current liabilities			104,323
Income funds			
Restricted funds	8		10,000
Unrestricted funds			94,323
			104,323

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the Period ended 30 September 2021. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The accounts were approved by the Board on 01.02.2022


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Mr D Wellesley-Wesley
Chair

Company Registration No. CE023817

NEXT STEP FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

1 Donations and legacies

2021

Donations and gifts

101,010

2 Incoming resources from charitable activities

Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021
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Grant funding receivable

30,000	10,000	40,000
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3 Total resources expended

2021

£

Costs of generating funds

Costs of generating donations and legacies

2,562

Charitable activities

University preparation programme

Activities undertaken directly

26,915

Support costs

5,590

Total

32,505

Governance costs

1,620

36,687

Governance costs includes payments to the independent examiners of £1,350 + VAT for independent examination fees.

4 Support costs

2021

£

Administrative expenses

1,675

IT software & maintenance

1,795

Staff costs

2,120

5,590

NEXT STEP FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

5 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the Period, and no relevant expenses were reimbursed.

6 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the Period was:

	2021 Number
Chief Executive Officer	1

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

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £
Accruals	36,620

8 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 30 September 2021
	Incoming resources	Resources expended	
	£	£	£
Grant funding receivable	10,000	-	10,000
	10,000	-	10,000

Innovation + Collaboration Fund

This fund is supported by the Kensington + Chelsea Foundation and is restricted for the purpose of supporting 20 young people from Kensington and Chelsea through the University Preparation Programme.

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BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

9 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 30 September 2021 are represented by:			
Current assets	130,943	10,000	140,943
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(36,620)	-	(36,620)
	<u>94,323</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>104,323</u>

10 Related parties

During the period, £35,000 was paid to Bonas MacFarlane Consulting Limited for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the charity.

Bonas MacFarlane Consulting Limited is a company of which two of the charity's trustees are also directors.