



**Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements for the
Year Ended 31 December 2024 for Swaziland Schools
Projects**

Registered Charity Number: 1201192

Contents

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December	3
Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Swaziland Schools Project	8
Statement of Financial Activities	12

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities'. It should be noted by readers that the country changed its name from Swaziland to Eswatini in 2019 but the official name of the charity remains unchanged.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Charity No	1201192	
Registered Office	19 Bindon Abbey Bedford MK41 0AZ	
Trustees	S Smith Reverend M Lawson R Thompson S Brittain I Nicholls K Fossey MBE L Millar B Clarke H Woodrow	Chair Secretary Treasurer Appointed March 2024 Appointed March 2024
Principal Bankers	The Co-operative Bank PO Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	
Independent Examiner	Paul Gooding	

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Swaziland Schools Projects (SSP) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1201192, and governed as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The charity has operated for 25 years and transitioned from an Unincorporated Association, charity number 1123689, to a CIO with effect from 1 January 2024.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed to supervise and develop the charity and are recruited because of their interest in the work of the charity and their specific skills. The Officers are appointed by the Trustees and are themselves Trustees of the charity. The Trustees determine the projects to be undertaken and manage the budget to achieve the objects of the charity.

During 2024, the Trustees welcomed Barry Clarke and Harry Woodrow as new Trustees in March. At the October AGM, Steve Smith was elected Chair, Matthew Lawson was elected Secretary and Bob Thompson was elected Treasurer.

Susan Lousada, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, continued as Patron.

Trustee meetings during 2024 were held either online or in person.

Trustee Induction and Training

Trustees are familiar with the work of the Charity and are initially briefed by Keith Fossey and/or Steve Smith as to the work of the Charity. They are provided with copies of the Constitution and the policies that govern how the charity operates. Opportunities to attend public speaking engagements where the work of the charity is described are available. Information about the work of the charity is shared at meetings and via regular email.

The Trustees have an annual programme of policy and governance review which also feature aspects of training and learning and keep themselves up to date in relation to their governance role via Charity Commission communications as well as from local Community and Voluntary Services organisations.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a process to assess risks and put in place risk management controls to mitigate those risks. This includes a formal risk register which is reviewed on a regular basis.

As part of that process, the Trustees review the adequacy of the Charity's financial controls and this includes ensuring that money sent to eSwatini is used for the correct charitable purposes. The Trustees also assess risks to any volunteers who visit Eswatini and produce appropriate advice and support to mitigate those risks.

Event planning includes risk assessments to minimise risks to volunteers and attendees.

The Trustees ensure that appropriate employer's liability and public liability insurance is in place. Insurance is reviewed each year.

Along with all other policies and processes, the charity's safeguarding arrangements are reviewed regularly and Trustee Ian Nicholls ensures that the charity identifies any changes required.

Trustees Responsibilities and Public Benefit

The Trustees are charged with management and supervision of the affairs of the charity:

- To bring an independent judgement to bear on strategy, performance and use of resources;
- To act in good faith in the interests of the charity and in the public interest, exercise due care and diligence, and contribute expertise and experience to the work of the Trustees;
- To promote the reputation and standing of the charity;
- To administer the charity for the benefit of current, potential and future beneficiaries.

The charity Trustees believe they have met the requirements of public benefit as published by the Charity Commission.

Objects, Activities and Public Benefit

The Charity's principal objective is to advance the education of the children and adults in Eswatini.

The Charity does this in four ways:

- Contributing to a Bursary Fund so that children may receive a secondary education;
- Funding building works such as classrooms, toilets, kitchens, teachers houses, water installation;
- Providing resources such as food and teaching materials;
- Financing other educational projects such as early childhood development training and vocational courses.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees' priority during 2024 was to support the Bursary Fund administered by partner charity Swaziland Charitable Trust so that 33 children could receive a secondary education.

The Charity also funded other projects during the year including:

- Grant for education of severely ill children looked after by Rocking Horse Charity
- Repairs to outdoor play equipment and supply of teaching resources at Ekwetsembeni Special School
- Vocational training of young Swazis and 1752 desk repairs at 8 schools
- School uniforms supplied at Nkhanini and Mayonani Schools
- Preschool/Community space, toilets and solar lighting at Sulutane School
- New toilets and eradication of termite infestation at Hluti School
- Repairs to 8 classrooms, 3 teachers houses and toilets at Mafutseni West School
- Renovations to teacher's houses Nkanini school
- Funding of electricity and exam requirements at Nkhaba school
- Student assisted to obtain degree in Medical Sciences
- Uniforms for 50 girls at Siteki School for the Deaf

SSP is incredibly fortunate to have a team of volunteers in Eswatini who manage all the projects and ensure that communications (including photographs) are received regularly in the UK

In the UK, all Trustees contribute to the work of the Charity by having specific allocated responsibilities. A major event in 2024 was the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Charity at a service and reception held in Bedford and attended by many supporters.

The Trustees are extremely grateful to supporters who receive the monthly email newsletter and who donate to the Charity. Without them, the Charity would not exist.

Keith Fossey MBE is the Charity Trustee responsible for liaising with the Eswatini team and visits Eswatini regularly at his own expense. He is able to see work recently undertaken and also to visit potential new projects. He also meets with partner organisations and other key contacts.

Financial Review

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of incoming resources and the application of those resources. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them on a consistent basis;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the ongoing concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for their proper application as required by charity law, and hence for taking reasonable steps for their detection and prevention of fraud and other irregularities. The policy of the charity is to not employ staff or for Trustees to take expenses. In this way, the overheads of the charity are kept extremely low and can normally be covered by the income received through Gift Aid. Donors can be satisfied, therefore, that all donations received are spent on the promotion of education in Eswatini.

Results

The net operating surplus for the year ended 31 December 2024 amounted to £14,816.81

Financial Commitments

The charity continues its commitment to achieving maximum income to fund bursaries and projects. As the charity does not employ staff or own buildings or other assets, the projects can be tailored to income levels. No work commences until the finance required is in the accounts.

In the UK, despite the adverse conditions posed by the post-pandemic inflation and other economic challenges, the Trustees have managed to maintain income at a good level. A special Thank You to all those who donated via Standing Orders. Funds are also raised from supporters and groups such as schools, rotary clubs and churches. The Trustees actively research project funding from external sources and additional ways to generate income. The Trustees are particularly grateful to the Trustees of The King/Cullimore Trust, the Graham Bates Trust and the Scouts for their grants to support our work.

There were no face-to-face fundraising events during 2024, although a collection was taken at the anniversary service in October.

The charity does not employ staff in the UK and is totally dependent on the services of unpaid volunteers, principally the Trustees, to undertake the various governance, marketing and fundraising activities required for the charity to fulfil its objectives.

Free Reserves

Free reserves available for use by the charity are deemed to be those that are readily realisable, less those funds that are designated or restricted for particular purposes.

As a matter of policy, the Trustees review annually the value of reserves required to be held in cash or cash equivalent and not restricted for any purpose. The Trustees consider the charity's exposure to risk of any significant loss of income, and to the risk of unforeseen expenditure, which cannot be mitigated by Trustee action, and the degree of risk ascribed to each such event is assessed.

It is not the charity's policy to embark upon major initiatives without committed funding.

The Trustees are grateful to Paul Gooding for inspecting our accounts.

Health and Safety

Health

The charity will, as far as is reasonably practical, seek to ensure that those who act as volunteers are fit for the tasks they will undertake. The charity has produced a number of policies and procedures to guide volunteers and to try to ensure the health and safety of those volunteers. The charity has a Risk Register and appropriate insurance cover for Trustees, volunteers and members of the public.

Safety

The charity undertakes the necessary risk assessments and will, where reasonably practical, implements appropriate controls. Training and information will be provided to ensure that those at risk are made aware.

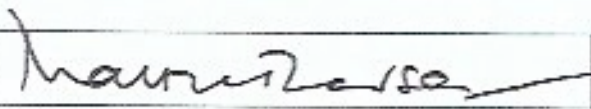
Accident reporting.

The charity will ensure that all volunteers are aware of the need to report all accidents and dangerous occurrences to the Trustees, without delay, following the accident or occurrence. The Trustees will, if required, report under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995.

Safeguarding

The charity takes its duties under the Children Act 1989 seriously and has appropriate procedures and Trustees appointed to meet its duties under the 1989 Act. The Charity reviews its processes every year.

Approved on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

	Date: 8 September 2025
--	------------------------

Reverend M Lawson, Secretary



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**

Swaziland Schools Projects

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1201192

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

**Independent examiner's
statement**

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

Date:

30th June 2025

Name: Paul Gooding

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Address:

Hillside Barn, Lapin Lane, Thorpe Underwood, Northampton, NN6 9NH

on B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

here brief details of any
s that the examiner
es to disclose.

There are no matters of concern, but my full report is attached (two pages)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees

Please find to follow my report on the accounts and financial reports for the year ending December 31st 2024.

Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that the charity keeps proper financial records and prepares annual accounts.

It is noted that the charity now enjoys a changed legal status, now being a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (charity number 1201192) as of 1.1.24. Funds continued to be received from the old charity (1123689) through the financial year 2024, and indeed into January 2025 (beyond the scope of this report), with assets being transferred to the new charity as detailed in the report below.

This new status does not fundamentally affect the audit requirements, given that the charity continues to fall between the £25k and £250k total income thresholds (ref item 4.1.2 of the Charity Commission reporting guidelines dated Nov 2016). Hence a full audit is not required under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011, as the thresholds therein for gross income and assets are not exceeded.

However, as the gross income clearly exceeds £25,000, an independent examination of the accounts as stipulated under section 145 of the same act is required. This examination is a form of external scrutiny designed to provide a limited check on specific matters, as laid out in the Charity Commission's guidance document CC32. It is my responsibility as an independent examiner to bring to the attention of the trustees any matters of material concern which my examination might reveal.

Within the income parameters stated above, it is at the discretion of the trustees as to whether accounts are prepared on a 'receipt and payment' or an 'accruals' basis (note item 4.5 of the reporting guidelines, pertaining to CIO's with income under £250k), and it is also at their discretion as to whether an independent examination is deemed to be sufficient, as opposed to full audit by a registered party.

Basis of report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Charity Commission's guidance referred to above.

Specifically:

1. I verified that the Charity was eligible to have an independent examination – see above
2. I can confirm that I have no conflict of interest
3. I have examined both the accounts and the monthly reports / financial records in detail, and satisfied myself that they are both accurate, and kept to the required standard.
4. Both at the end of the reporting period, and at the point of each major expenditure (x3) during the year, the overall financial circumstances of the charity have clearly been properly considered by the trustees.
 - a. All major expenditure was funded by unencumbered, available funds
 - b. The reserves held are sufficient, and prudent. The stated underlying objective is to ensure that the reserves held exceed the liability from bursary commitments for the following year, and this is adhered to. There are no other evident liabilities which pose any sort of risk to the level of reserves held.
 - c. The operations report of March 2024 recommends adding two further children to the bursary scheme, but keeping within an annual cap of £10k on this form of expenditure/commitment.
5. The trustees' annual reports are consistent with both the financial records, and the prepared accounts, and the latter are in an appropriate format.

Statement:

During my examination of the financial records and accounts, no matter has come to my attention which might lead me to believe that the charity was not compliant with its obligation to keep appropriate accounting records.

The statement is dated 31st December 2024.

Total income for the year recorded at £74,570.35

Total expenditure £59,753.54

Opening balance of £195.01

Closing balance of £15,011.82

Surplus for the year of £14,816.81

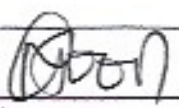
Note this income figure includes the sum of £13660.46 transferred from the old charity (number 1123689), being the sum of a total of 4 transfers.

I have conducted a full and detailed analysis of the financial records, cross-referencing every transaction to the bank statements, and can verify that the above reported figures are accurate.

Note: whilst it is beyond the immediate scope of this report, I did nonetheless note that this left the old charity (1123689) with a balance of £387.19 as of 31.12.24, and this account then received further income of £145 during January 2025, giving a revised balance of £532.19, the whole of which was then transferred to the new charity as of 27.1.2025.

General notes

- There are now 9 trustees in total, with two new trustees appointed in 2024 (induction process verified)
- I saw plenty of evidence of oversight of the output in terms of the charity's end objective. It operates via a locally based company, Changing Futures/Swaziland Schools Projects, which is itself subject to a local audit.
- Insurance is subject to annual review, and is sufficient.
- I also checked the following policy documents:
 - Reserves and Budgeting policy
 - Financial Procedures
 - Health and Safety
 - Safeguarding
- The organisation is, in my view, adhering fully to its policies in terms, of finance, reserves and budgeting.


Name: Paul Gooding
Address: Hillside Barn, Lapin Lane, Thorpe Underwood, Northants, United Kingdom, NN6 9NH
Date: 30.06.2025

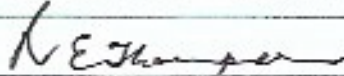
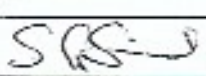
Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating an Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Incoming Resources			
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	67,478	4,475	71,953
Other trading activities	2,558	0	2,558
Investments	59	0	59
Total	70,095	4,475	74,570
Resources Expended			
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	1,939	0	1,939
Charitable activities	57,815	0	57,815
Total	59,754	0	59,754
Net movement in funds	14,817	0	14817
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	195	0	195
Total funds carried forward	15,012	0	15,012
Statement of Assets and Liabilities			
Cash Funds			
Co-operative Bank current account	15,012	0	15,012

These Financial Statements were approved by the Trustees of the Charity on 31 March 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:

	
Robert Thompson, Treasurer	Steve Smith, Chairman

All activities are continuing except any disclosed in the notes which have been discontinued during the period.

The notes on pages 13 and 14 form part of these accounts.

Notes to the accounts**For the Year Ended 31 December 2024****1. Accounting Policies****a. Basis of Accounting**

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts and with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

b. Recognition of Income

This is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when received.

c. Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.

d. Government Grants

The charity has received no government grants in the reporting period

e. Tax reclaims on Donations and Gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

f. Donated Goods, Services, Facilities and Volunteer Help

The value of any donated goods, services, facilities or voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report where material.

2. Insurance

Insurance costs above relate to Trustee and Officer Indemnity insurance and Employers and Public Liability insurance.

3. Trustee Remuneration

Trustees do not receive any remuneration.

4. Analysis of income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Analysis			
Donations and legacies			
Donations and gifts	67,478	4,475	71,953
Gift Aid	0	0	0
Total	67,478	4,475	71,953
Other trading Activities			
Sales	0	0	0
Events	2,558	0	2,558
Total	2,558	0	2,558
Income from Investments			
Dividends	0	0	0
Interest	59	0	59
Total	59	0	59
Total	70,095	4,475	74,570

5. Analysis of Expenditure

Expenditure on raising funds			
Printing, postage, stationery	0	0	0
Insurance	338	0	338
Event costs	1,939	0	1,939
Marketing	0	0	0
Professional costs	426	0	426
Digital channel costs	20	0	20
Total	2,723	0	2,723
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Bursary grants	0	4,475	4,475
Project grants	52,525	0	52,525
Bank charges	30	0	30
Total	52,555	4,475	57,030
Total	55,278	4,475	59,753