

Academy of Hope (AOH)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period 31 July 2024 to 5 March 2025

Charity Number: 1209368

1. Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: Academy of Hope (AOH)

Charity Number: 1209368

Legal Structure: Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Country of Registration: England

Trustees who served during the period (at different times):

- Caleb Packham – Chair (until October 2024; thereafter advisor)
- Kylie Watson – Secretary / Acting Chair
- Matthew Messina – Treasurer
- Purnoor Grewal – Legal & Governance Trustee
- Rebecca Rainbow – Vice Chair (resigned during the period)

Principal Address:

22 City Lofts, 112-116 Tabernacle Street, London, EC2A 4LE, United Kingdom

2. Structure, Governance and Management

Academy of Hope is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution and the Charities Act 2011. The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 31 July 2024.

The trustees are responsible for the strategic direction, safeguarding oversight, financial management and regulatory compliance of the charity.

During the reporting period the board underwent planned governance changes, including trustee appointments, resignations and role adjustments. These changes were managed in accordance with the charity's governing document and relevant Charity Commission guidance to maintain effective oversight and continuity of operations.

Trustees met regularly to review governance, safeguarding, financial oversight and operational risks.

3. Objectives and Activities

Charitable Objectives

The charity's purpose was to relieve poverty and advance education by supporting vulnerable children in India through:

- Access to education and school fee support
- Safe shelter and guardianship
- Safeguarding and wellbeing oversight
- Community engagement and fundraising initiatives

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning and carrying out the charity's activities. The charity's work directly supported children's access to education, safety and wellbeing.

Activities During the Period

Key areas of activity included:

- Maintaining support for beneficiaries through ongoing liaison with guardians in India
- Developing safeguarding and governance procedures
- Exploring partnership and fundraising opportunities
- Reviewing digital communications and operational systems

4. Achievements and Performance

During its first operational period as a registered CIO, the charity achieved several important governance and operational milestones.

Governance and Development

Academy of Hope transitioned to UK charity status and strengthened governance through the appointment of trustees with financial and legal expertise.

Partnerships and Support

The charity explored partnership opportunities and received interest from a corporate donor and support from volunteers aimed at strengthening long-term sustainability.

Beneficiary Support

Trustees maintained communication with school administration and guardians in India to monitor educational progress and welfare needs of beneficiaries.

5. Financial Review

The charity operated on a small scale during its first reporting period and maintained close financial oversight through trustee review and the appointment of a Treasurer. Income consisted primarily of donations and supporter contributions. Expenditure focused on:

- Educational support and school fees
- Shelter and safeguarding-related costs

Financial oversight was strengthened during the period through:

- Appointment of a Treasurer
- Increased transaction transparency

The trustees encountered ongoing challenges establishing compliant charity bank accounts capable of supporting international transfers due to regulatory requirements relating to India.

At the time of closure, trustees confirmed that there were no remaining assets or outstanding liabilities.

6. Risk Management

The trustees identified operational and regulatory risks primarily relating to international banking requirements and cross-border compliance obligations.

These risks were addressed through:

- Governance reviews
- Legal consultation

- Strengthened financial oversight
- Ongoing safeguarding monitoring

Trustees met regularly during the reporting period to review governance, safeguarding, financial matters and regulatory issues relating to the charity's activities.

7. Safeguarding

Safeguarding remained a priority throughout the reporting period.

A social media post containing personal information was identified internally and removed shortly after publication. A subsequent safeguarding complaint referred to this post, which was no longer online at the time of review. Trustees discussed the matter and reviewed internal procedures to support continued compliance with Charity Commission safeguarding guidance.

Trustees continued to review safeguarding practices to support the wellbeing and protection of beneficiaries.

8. Plans for the Future and Decision to Wind Up

Despite sustained efforts to establish compliant operational and financial infrastructure, trustees concluded that regulatory restrictions relating to international banking and cross-border compliance limited the charity's ability to operate effectively.

Following careful consideration of the charity's regulatory and operational constraints, the trustees unanimously resolved on 5 March 2025 to voluntarily wind up the charity in order to ensure compliance and responsible stewardship of its charitable activities.

9. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

In preparing this report, trustees have:

- Ensured activities furthered the charity's purposes for public benefit
- Maintained appropriate governance and financial oversight
- Taken reasonable steps to manage risk and safeguarding responsibilities

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Trustee Name: Kylie Watson
Position: Acting Chair / Secretary

Signature: 

Date: 19 February 2026

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Charity Name Academy of Hope		No (if any)		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	Period start date 31-Jul-24	To	Period end date 3-Mar-25	

Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations Received	3,675	-	-	3,675	
Interest Income	16	-	-	16	
		-	-	-	
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	3,691	-	-	3,691	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Sub total	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Total receipts	3,691	- 0	- 0	3,691	- 0
A3 Payments					
Faciliation of children	860	-	-	860	
Tuition, tutors, shelter and food	3,745	-	-	3,745	
Donations returned	1,209	-	-	1,209	
	- 0	-	-	-	
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
Sub total	5,814	-	-	5,814	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	
Sub total	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Total payments	5,814	- 0	- 0	5,814	- 0
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,123	-	-	- 2,123	-
A5 Transfers between funds	- 0	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,123	-	-	2,123	0
Cash funds this year end	- 0	-	-	-	2,123

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period				
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-
		-	-	-

		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	-	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
		Kylie Watson		27/05/2026