

Reach Mentoring Limited
(A company limited by guarantee, not having share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

The directors present their report prepared in accordance with Charities SORP (effective January 2015) with the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022, also prepared in accordance with the aforementioned Statement of Recommended Practice and FRS102.

The directors, who are also trustees of the charity, at the date of this report and those who served during the financial year together with the dates of any changes, are set out on page 1 and are listed below.

Directors

The directors who served during the year are as follows:

Peter Wright (resigned 7 November 2022)
Rhoda Kerr
Sonya Rowe
Raymond Pollock
Claire Kerr
Kathryn Cunningham
Colin Cooper
John Pickering

In accordance with the Articles of Association the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Objectives and Activities

Mission Statement

"Compelled by the love of God, Reach exists to enable young people to unleash their full potential. It creates positive, informing and empowering mentoring relationships while working in partnership with schools, churches and relevant agencies."

Principal Activities

The principal activity of the company is to provide one-to-one mentoring relationships.

Achievements and Performance

Reach Mentoring Ltd continue to focus on its Aims and objectives which are to provide mentoring relationships that...

1. Encourage young people to explore healthy lifestyle choices.
2. Support the educational experience of young people.
3. Care pastorally for young people.
4. Enthuse young people to play a positive role in their community.
5. Create space for young people to explore Christianity and develop in leadership.

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DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Programmes

The programmes which are offered by Reach Mentoring Ltd include the following:

- One-to-one mentoring
- Delivering personal development classes in schools
- Delivering leadership development training

Activities in 2022

The vision and mission of Reach Mentoring has remained steadfast throughout the past 12 months; seeking to partner with schools to support young people facing difficult life circumstances. We continue to seek to provide one-to-one mentoring for those most at risk while equipping all pupils in our partner schools to improve their emotional and mental wellbeing. 2021 saw a marked increase in demand for our services, due in part to the negative impact of COVID/lockdowns, demand in 2022 has continued to be high. In addition, we have seen a growing increase in the number of critical incidents and safeguarding issues being disclosed to our mentors. Reach Mentoring continues to be a lifeline for many of these young people and often the only significant adult that they will engage with.

Mentoring

Reach Mentoring has provided consistent support to young people who were feeling isolated, experiencing behavioural difficulties, trauma, anxiety, suicide ideation, low self-worth, and relational breakdown. Over this year, it has provided consistent support to over 500 young people in 39 schools across 6 locations. 74 volunteer mentors were recruited and trained.

Personal Development

As a Reach Mentoring programme, Personal Development strives to evolve and adapt to the wider needs of the young people we work with. It includes the 'My Story in Colour' project for primary schools; Year 8 transition workshops; an annually themed workshop (available from Y9-14); and digital toolkits in the form of well-being themed video series. This year partner Post-Primary schools were offered workshops entitled 'Inside and Out' focusing on healthy choices around diet, exercise, body image etc. Workshops aim to engage pupils through discussion and practical tools. Personal Development reaches approx. 5000 young people each year, including participants in the 'My Story in Colour' project of which, in 2022, there were 1300 across 10 Primary Schools

Connect Programme

Our work with Engage Funding has been renamed as 'Connect'. Connect is a slightly different model to our normal Mentoring Programme in that schools have, in the past, used 'Engage' funding from the Department of Education (as a response to Covid). We have Connect workers in 10 of our schools working with a further 119 young people per year. Connect is flexible in its approach e.g. it can be an additional day per week or, as in 2 of our schools, holistically incorporated into the school community for the duration of the full academic year. Even though 'Engage' funding for schools has been cut for this upcoming Academic Year, this service will still be available if schools may choose to assign school budget to it.

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DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Banbridge Launch

After a year of working in one school with 'Engage' funding, Reach Mentoring officially launched in Banbridge in September 2022. We engaged and partnered with 4 Post-Primary schools and worked on a weekly basis with 56 young people. 8 volunteer mentors recruited and trained. Over the next year we will place a focus on strengthening the work in Banbridge and look forward to seeing it grow.

Financial Review

The statement of financial activities which shows the results of the company is set out on page 10. The reported surplus for the period is £41,215. The directors continually review all funding opportunities to maximise the incoming resources for the charity.

Reserves Policy

The company's policy is to achieve a level of free reserves which matches the needs of the company both at the current time and the foreseeable future. Free reserves are those unrestricted reserves which are available for general use.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Reach Mentoring Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. It is governed by Memorandum and Articles of Association and the liability of each member is limited to an amount not exceeding £1. It is recognised as a charity by HMRC under the reference NI00361 and by the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland under the reference NIC102128.

Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year, the directors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's statutory guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped achieve the charity purpose and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

Special Provisions relating to small companies

This report is prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

By order of the Board


R Kerr

Director

Date: 19th July 2023



K Cunningham

Director

Date: 19th July 2023