

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 01/08/24 to 31/07/25

Section A. Reference and administration Details

Charity name

Christians in Schools Trust

Registered charity number

Registered charity number 1019848.

Charity's principal address

The principal address for the charity is that of the Charity Office

Office Address

Church House 99 Chatham Street Stockport SK3 9EG

Trustees

As at the end of the financial year, 31st July 2024:

Mr Stephen Innes (Trust Chairman)
Mrs Deborah Allen (Secretary)
Mrs Gill Golding (Safeguarding)
Mr Phillip Pasteiner (Trust Treasurer)
Mrs Vivienne Allen
Mrs Janet Elizabeth Ford
Mrs Christine Joyce Hall
Ms Pauline McKendrick

Section B. Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is governed by a Declaration of Trust made on 17th March 1993.

Trustee selection methods

Clause 6 of the Declaration of Trust which governs the Trustees provides for not less than 3 nor more than 9 Trustees. Each Trustee is required to assent in writing to the doctrinal basis of this trust. The appointment of new Trustees is by the continuing Trustees. There are no custodian trustees. The Trustees met 7 times during the year and the average attendance was 87% No trustee attended less than 50% of Trustee meetings. Apologies were given to the meeting at all times.

One new Trustee was elected to join the Trust at the Trustees meeting in February 2025

Review of major risks

Major risks are reviewed at Trustee meetings. Systems designed to mitigate significant risks are introduced as necessary. Trust policies are reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The following policies form part of our overall policy pack

Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

Complaint's Policy

Bullying and Harassment Policy

Social Media Policy

Conflicts of Interest Policy

Safer Recruitment

Trustee expenses Policy

Section C. Objectives and activities for the public benefit**Objects of the charity**

The purpose of the Trust is the advancement of Christian religion as follows:

The furtherance of the Gospel of God concerning his Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord and the teaching of the Christian Faith in schools throughout the Stockport area and elsewhere.

The organisation, sponsorship and promotion of Inter-denominational Christian work throughout the Stockport area and elsewhere the object of which shall be to present to men, women, young people and children the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord by all possible means.

The Trust

The Trust is committed to providing Christian support for schools. Funds are provided by gifts from churches and individual supporters, mainly from Stockport and the surrounding areas.

The Trust has a Mission Statement. All activities that we carry out must adhere to at least one of the points in our mission statement.

Our mission is to:

- Share the relevance of the Christian faith with young people
- Support and promote excellence in religious education, Assemblies and Schools' work
- Partner with Christian communities in providing opportunities for children and young people to explore the Christian faith.

Founded in 1993, the work has developed and multiplied. Support is currently being given to primary and secondary schools, the local education authority and churches of all denominations.

Grant-making Policy

The Trust does not normally make grants. A specific decision of the Trustees, following appropriate enquiries, is necessary before a grant could be made.

Investments Policy

The Trust seeks funds to support its current programme. It does not currently have any long-term investments. Specific investment powers are included in clause 3 of the Declaration of Trust.

Volunteers and Supporters

Volunteers of the Trust offer support by praying for the Trust it's work and workers, and by supporting through financial giving. They do this on their own and also through meeting together for prayer. The staff compose a monthly news sheet which includes news of our work and points to pray for.

Mission Partners

These are gifted individuals or church workers who support our staff in their work in a practical way both on an ad-hoc and regular basis. We currently have several church workers who we consider our Mission Partners. All partners carry a current DBS

Section D. Achievements and performance for the public benefit**Overview****A year of growth and new things**

The team continued to form links with schools that we have previously not had links with and also rebuild links that we had lost contact with.

The team have also continued to update our weekly assemblies programme and they have produced some new lessons replacing out of date subjects. The team have also continued to create suitable "Prayer Spaces" for schools to book.

The Trustees continue to review the Trust's policies in our portfolio at regular intervals

Staffing

The Trust currently employs 3 members of staff, 1 full time worker and 2 part time workers. Our full-time worker is the team lead and also works in the primary sector. One part time worker works in the primary sector whilst the other focuses on secondary schools

Secondary schools

Our secondary school worker has continued to build on the links we have with secondary schools and input into a new school began this year. Our worker has not only been doing some R.E. lessons but also runs lunch time and after school clubs in several schools. These have been supported by partners from the local churches or staff from within the schools. One school also invited our worker to join them on a pupil's residential retreat. Our worker also supports a monthly youth event held in the centre of the town.

It is hoped to continue growing and developing the work further in the coming academic year. Feedback shows that the clubs are valued and well attended by pupils. Our worker is currently training part time to be a trained councillor at a university nearby and is also a qualified Mental Health First Aider. It is hoped to develop further our Prayer Space for key stage 3 children during 2025/6.

We currently run 4 clubs in different schools.

Primary schools

The Trust continues to develop its work in primary schools. Throughout 2024 and 2025 both our staff have delivered weekly school assemblies, lessons and projects which have been widely used and valued by many schools. The Trust currently has links with almost 50 local schools and visit most on a regular basis. Many new lessons have been written to link with the new Greater Manchester R. E. curriculum. Following further training on "Prayer Spaces in Schools" a U.K. wide organisation the team have developed and refined our spaces suitable for Key Stage 1 and 2 children. Partly due to the current "Mental health" amongst children these Spaces have become very popular and useful to schools and they are making use of them.

During the year our staff planned and led around 270 workshops, 9 prayer spaces as well as taking over 300 lessons plus assemblies and have had contact with around 8000 children, this is a small increase on last year's figures and demonstrates how much our local schools value our work.

The Trust also works in conjunction with the "Heaton's Churches Partnership" to resource and manage input into the schools there and to build links with churches. One member of staff takes overall responsibility for this and attends the church leaders' meetings.

This year we piloted a new activity linked to our "It's Your Move" project. Our staff team ran a full day Saturday event called "Move Social". Year six children were invited to explore deeper some of the challenges in moving to a new and often much larger school and looked at some of the changes involved. All this was done in a fun and exciting way, and we had good feedback from the young people who attended

SACRE

The Trust has representation on the local council SACRE group. Our team lead is currently a member and attends the meetings.

Development work

Trust employees and some Trustees visit local churches and related organisations to promote and maintain the work of the Trust. Networking with Christian organisations and educational bodies is also a part of the Trust's work.

Over recent years the staff team have continued to develop and improve our current projects for schools. The projects that have been developed so far are aimed mainly at Key Stage 1 and 2 children which have been well received. Staff continue to review and update all material used as necessary.

The staff have all continued to develop some sessions and projects suitable for reception and Key Stage 1 children, The Trusts intention is to continue rebuilding links with the secondary schools,

further develop the Prayer or reflective spaces projects more and encourage local churches to take an active interest in and serve their local schools where possible.

Over the past twelve months the staff and Trustees have been able to strengthen our links with some local churches and partner with them in projects and clubs.

The Trustees continue to make sure we comply with current Data Protection and our Privacy Policy, making sure both are up to date.

Safeguarding

As a Trust we are committed to having a high standard of safeguarding both for our staff and those they come in contact with. The Trust has a Safeguarding Policy and we review this policy approximately every twelve months.

Safeguarding is an item on the agenda at every Trustee's meeting.

Safeguarding training for staff was completed in a local school in September of 2025 where they joined with the school staff on their Safeguarding training day. The Trustee's hope that staff will continue to have access to in-school training this coming academic year. Our Safeguarding trustee and team lead has had "Safer Recruitment" training. The Trustees have also completed some on-line training in "Safeguarding" and "Safer Recruitment" recently. All Trustees attended a Safeguarding for Trustees' training day in January 2025

Internet resources

The Christians in Schools Trust web site (www.cist.org.uk), was originally launched in September 2000. The website continues to be upgraded and developed as a point of information. Our website was redesigned, edited and our new site was launched at Easter term of 2021 and is updated by our "Team Leader"

The staff also use other social media sites such as "Facebook" and "Instagram" to keep our supporters informed on a regular basis.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in planning all our activities.

Serious Incidents

There were no serious incidents relating to the charity during the previous year that the Trustees needed to inform the Charity Commission.

Section E. Financial review

Whilst our current financial situation is very healthy, and we have been able to employ a further worker year, our expenditure has exceeded our income. Although we have funds to cover this, it is a matter that the Trustees will need to address in the near future.

Income 2024 – 2025

Donations are received from supporting churches and individuals who support our mission. General gifts received during the year of operation totalled £29,539 from churches and £17,541 from individuals. No tax was recovered through "Gift Aid" due to a problem at the Government office. A further £7,200 came from the service agreement with the Heaton's' Group of Churches. The Trust did not receive any further one-off gifts.

Expenditure 2024 – 2025

Employee costs totalled £49,014 for salaries and pensions, £6577.00 for expenses and activities. Support, Administration and I.T. costs for the year were £2,569.00. We also gifted £1,100 to St Matthews Church for the use of St Matthews Church House as an office. This is included in our support costs.

Budget for 2025 – 2026

Total Assets at the start of the next year are £135,842. The Trust's budget for 2025-2026 is £66,725.00. Our aim is to have a balanced budget for the year; however, we currently hold enough reserves to cover any shortfall. We expect to see a reduction in our balance over the next 12 months due to employing a further part time worker.

Reserves policy

Trustees are alerted when funds fall to near three months working expense and appeals to supporters are initiated as required. The Trust's funds include a sum of £13,900.00, which covers 90 days of total salaries, our Employer's financial responsibilities and any other financial commitments that the Trust has. Since we have been able to employ a third worker this year and still have a good balance, we should be able to continue to operate at the current level for at least the next 24 months.

Capital expenditure policy

Items of capital expenditure costing over £500 bought for the use of the Trust and its employees, these are treated as investment assets and are normally depreciated in four equal annual steps of 25%.

Section F. Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustee's report above at a trustee meeting on October 23rd 2025

Signed on behalf of the charity

Mr Stephen Innes
Chair of Trustees

Handwritten signature of Stephen Innes in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' and 'I' followed by the name 'Innes'.

Date 23.10.25

Mrs Deborah Allen
Secretary & Trustee

Handwritten signature of Deborah Allen in black ink, appearing as 'DA Allen' with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Date 23/10/25



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/08/2024	To	31/07/2025
---------------------	------------	----	------------

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					
Church Gifts	29,539	-	-	28,939	22,049
Personal Gifts	18,141	-	-	18,141	17,911
Tax Reclaimed	-	-	-	-	3,781
Other Gifts	-	-	-	-	2,313
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Heaton Service Partnership	6,600	-	-	7,200	7,200
Investment Income	1,024	-	-	1,024	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	55,304	-	-	55,304	53,254
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	55,304	-	-	55,304	53,254
A3 Payments					
Employees Salaries	43,421	-	-	43,421	38,451
HMRC (includes NI)	3,531	-	-	3,531	3,291
Nest Pensions	2,062	-	-	2,062	1,746
Material Costs	4,500	-	-	4,500	174
Employee Expenses	-	-	-	-	802
Office Costs	3,759	-	-	3,759	3,397
Insurance	985	-	-	985	933
IT Costs	442	-	-	442	308
Trustee Costs	-	-	-	-	2,313
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	58,700	-	-	58,700	51,415
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
Equipment Purchases	500	-	-	500	55
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	500	-	-	500	55
Total payments	59,200	-	-	59,200	51,470
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,896	-	-	- 3,896	1,784
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 3,896	-	-	- 3,896	1,784

I have examined these accounts & found them materially correct

*J A Supra A.C.A.
2/12/25*

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Account	20,018	-	-
	Deposit Account	115,824	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	135,842	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))



Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	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
	STEPHEN INNES	23.11.25
	DEBORAH ALLEN	23/11/25