

The Duchess's High School Trust



The Duchess's
High School Trust

Report and Financial Statements
Year Ended 31st March 2023

Charity Number: 1038646

The Duchess's High School Trust
Year ending 31st March 2023
Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees

S Bell; appointed 26Nov22
R Bush
H Blythe; appointed 20Mar23
R A J Fatherley
C W Howey; resigned 12Sep22
F Long; appointed 26Nov22
I J McAllister; resigned 30Jun22
R J Morley
M C Skinner; resigned 30Jun22
R Taylor; resigned 20Mar23
E Whitley
K Williams, Chair

Charity Address

Duchess's Community High School,
Taylor Drive,
Alnwick,
Northumberland,
NE66 2DH

Independent Examiner

JA Inglis-Jones ACMA CGMA
The Old Livery
28-30 Main Street
Felton
Morpeth
Northumberland
NE65 9PN

Banker

Lloyds Bank plc,
24 Bondgate Within,
Alnwick,
Northumberland,
NE66 1TD

The Duchess's High School Trust

Year ending 31st March 2023

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ending 31st March 2023

The Trustees of the Duchess's High School Trust present their annual report and audited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the trust deed and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Constitution and Objects

The Duchess's High School Trust exists for the purpose of advancing the education of the pupils by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities and resources for the education of the pupils at the school which would not be provided otherwise.

There have been no changes in objectives during 2022/23. The Trust operates in accordance with its declaration of 3rd May 1994.

Membership

At 31st March 2023, there were 7 Trustees:

Sarah Bell; appointed 26Nov22
Rosie Bush
Hilda Blythe; appointed 20Mar23
James Fatherley
Fiona Long; appointed 26Nov22
Beccy Morley
Katherine Williams, Chair

Review of activities and future developments

The Duchess's High School Trust exists to provide activities which support young people who are students at The Duchess's Community High School in Alnwick by removing barriers to learning, providing new learning experiences and enhancing the learning environment. The Trust works in partnership with the Duchess's Community High School to ensure young people have access to services and experiences which are not otherwise available to them and to mitigate some of the challenges of growing up in England's most rural county. In the year 2022-23, the Trust has raised more than £30,000 to facilitate new activities.

This year's Open Book Project recognises the role that the wider community can have in supporting learning. Aiming to promote reading for pleasure and dispel the myth that reading is "just for school," the Open Book Project has given away almost 400 books and started to get families buzzing about books (a further 600+ books will be given away in 2023/24). This project has been supported by the North of Tyne Combined Authority, Alnwick Town Council and public donations.

Our Breakfast Club project has grown and, in January 2023, we were delighted to launch a new Grab n Go breakfast offer which is accessible to all students every day.

With support from the local community, we have been able to ensure that this offer now supports students with dietary needs with nut-, dairy- and gluten-free options on the breakfast menu everyday. In the same year, we have also launched a new Discretionary Hardship Fund which has been generously supported by local families, enabling us to support individual students to take part in school trips and experiences that they wouldn't otherwise be able to afford.

We continue to prioritise bringing cultural experiences to Alnwick for the benefit of DCHS students and the wider community. This has included the Royal Institution Science Show and the Frontier Living History show as well as the ever popular Mr Gay UK who has supported Pride Club and helped us to create a more inclusive environment by boosting confidence and challenging prejudice.

Lunchtime and after school clubs continue to provide vital opportunities for students to develop relationships and access experiences out of the classroom. A new Switch club has been established for younger students, giving them a safe space with access to gaming devices which have proved essential for some of them to escape the busy lunch environment and reset before afternoon lessons. A new theatrical makeup club has enabled students aged 11-14 to access some of the hair and beauty facilities that are normally only available to older groups, and has also supported a number of school drama performances.

We are delighted to be working with Community@NE66 to provide sexual health advice and support in school for individual young people who are experiencing gender dysphoria, unhealthy relationships, sexual abuse, sexually transmitted infections or putting themselves in risky situations. This has proved to be a lifeline to a small number of young people who would otherwise have nowhere else to turn. There is no statutory sexual health service available to young people in our community.

We remain extremely grateful to all the charities, businesses, individuals and other agencies who have supported us this year. In particular, we would like to acknowledge the grants we have received from Alnwick Town Council, Co-Op Community Fund, Community Foundation for Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, High Sheriff of Northumberland, Garfield Weston Foundation, Local Giving Magic Little Grants and Rothley Trust as well as the individual donations which have been received to the Open Book Project and the Hardship Fund.

Towards the end of the year we were approached by an anonymous donor who wished to make a bequest to support the charity for two years. This significant donation, known as the Acorn Bequest, will secure our core charitable activities until 2025, allowing us to focus on growing local support and establishing new projects which boost young people's learning and experiences. As such, our priorities for the coming year will be to consolidate existing activities and to develop awareness of our charity locally.

The Trust is grateful for all their hard work and positive contributions to former trustees Clive Howey, Ian McAllister, Mike Skinner and Rebecca Taylor who resigned

during 2022/23. The charity has welcomed Sarah Bell, Hilda Blythe and Fiona Long who have joined the board this year.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" and to state whether or not the accounts have been prepared in accordance with that Statement and applicable accounting standards;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



Katherine Williams, Chair

The Duchess's High School Trust
Financial Statements for the Year ending 31st March 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

£	Note	2022/23	2021/22
Income			
Grants	1	15,156	18,490
Donations	2	12,878	7,639
School Lottery		1,986	2,533
Other		3,126	3,367
Total Income		33,146	32,029
Expenditure			
Sexual Health		1,599	1,262
Breakfast Club		3,895	5,708
Lunchtime Clubs		1,048	4,704
Bringing Cultural Experiences to DCHS		4,778	167
Pride Activities		1,770	378
21 for 21		1,511	6,190
Open Book Project		3,333	-
Other education resources and facilities		5,215	4,243
General Administration costs		639	290
Costs of raising funds		1,107	1,219
Total Expenditure		24,895	24,161
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		8,251	7,868
Balance 1 st April		22,422	14,554
Balance 31st March		30,673	22,422

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023

£	Note	2022/23	2021/22
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank		91,493	22,798
Accrued income	6	330	-
Prepayments	7	323	-
Current Liabilities			
Deferred income	8	(60,000)	-
Creditors	9	(637)	(376)
Accrued costs	10	(836)	-
Net Total Assets		30,673	22,422
Funds of the Charity	11		
Unrestricted Funds		8,221	3,948
Total Restricted Funds		17,835	14,521
Total Designated Funds		4,617	3,953
Total Charity Funds		30,673	22,422



Katherine Williams, Chair

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Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) second edition issued October 2019 and the Charities Act 2011.

(b) Income

Donations, grants and similar incoming resources are included in the year in which they are received unless they reflect restricted income related to a specific period, in which case they are treated as deferred income and held as a liability, released in the period specified.

(c) Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. The charity is not registered for VAT and accordingly expenditure is shown gross of irrecoverable VAT.

(d) Fund Accounting

The charity's funds consist of unrestricted and restricted amounts. The charity may use unrestricted amounts at its discretion. Restricted funds represent income contributions, which are restricted to a particular purpose, in accordance with the donor's wishes.

In some cases, the trustees may decide to set aside a portion of unrestricted funds for a specific purpose; such set aside is shown as a designated fund. Designated funds are actively managed and reviewed by the trustees on a regular basis, with funds transferred back to unrestricted funds if no longer needed.

2. Grants Income

£	2022/23	2021/22
Alnwick Town Council (Open Book grant)	1,790	
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	-	3,000
CFNTW – Appletree Fund	-	4,000
CFNTW – High Sheriff of Northumberland	1,000	1,000
CFNTW – Kerry Grassroots Fund	2,500	-
CFNTW – Lendrum Family Fund	2,400	-
CFNTW – Weightman Family Fund	800	3,000
Co-op Community Fund	1,366	-
Duke of Northumberland	-	1,000
Freemasons of Northumberland	-	700
Garfield Weston Foundation	4,000	-
Local Giving - Magic Little Grants	500	500
North East Humanists Microgrant	-	320
Northumberland Children's Trust	-	500
Northumbria PCC Operation Payback Fund	-	970
Rothley Trust	800	-
R W Mann Trust	-	1,500
Sir James Knott Trust	-	2,000
Total	15,156	18,490

Note: CFNTW is Community Foundation for Northumberland and Tyne & Wear

3. Donations Income

£	2022/23	2021/22
£21k for 2021 appeal donations	-	6,137
Hardship fund donations	2,116	-
Restricted donations	9,828	1,502
- £7,634 Open Book Project		
- £900 cultural activities		
- £670 newly arrived students		
- £485 admin fees re. Open Book Project		
- £139 breakfast club & lunchtime clubs		
Unrestricted donations	934	
Total	12,878	7,639

4. Trustees' Remuneration

The Trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year or in 2021/22.

5. Tangible Fixed Assets

The Trust has no tangible fixed assets.

6. Accrued income

Accrued income at 31st March 2023 was £330, made up as follows:

£	2022/23	2021/22
Small donations Gift Aid reclaim	151	-
School Lottery	98	-
Local Giving donations	54	-
Amazon Smile	18	-
Fundraise and Recycle	10	-
Total	330	-

7. Prepayments

Prepayments as at 31st March 2023 were £323, made up as follows:

£	2022/23	2021/22
Website costs	227	-
Insurance	96	-
Total	323	-

8. Deferred income

In March 2023 the trust received and was paid a legacy of £60,000, the Acorn Bequest, to fund a portfolio of projects across two years. As the Acorn Bequest specified both the activities and time period over which funds should be spent, it has been treated as deferred income in 2022-23 to be released in two equal instalments as income to the accounts in 2023-24 and 2024-25 in line with delivery of the projects.

£	2022/23	2021/22
Acorn Bequest	60,000	-
Total	60,000	-

9. Creditors

Creditors at 31st March 2023 were £637, made up as follows:

£	2022/23	2021/22
Sexual Health service	637	-
TICE Project	-	180
Breakfast Club	-	114
Lunchtime Clubs	-	9
Other resources	-	73
Total	637	376

10. Accrued costs

Accrued costs as at 31st March 2023 were £836, made up as follows:

£	2022/23	2021/22
Bookswap book costs	649	-
Sexual Health service	187	-
Total	836	376

11. Funds

At 31st March 2023, the Trust held funds of £30,673 apportioned as follows:

£	2022/23	2021/22
Unrestricted Funds	8,221	3,948
Restricted Funds		
Open Book Project	7,091	1,000
Bringing Cultural Experiences to DCHS	3,855	5,333
Running costs, rebrand and new website	3,539	-
Lunchtime Clubs	2,225	1,798
Activities for Newly Arrived Students	670	-
Pride Activities	200	1,970
Sexual Health	138	1,237
Breakfast Club	117	3,183
Total Restricted Funds	17,835	14,521
Designated Funds		
Hardship Fund	4,617	-
21 for 21	-	3,953
Total Designated Funds	4,617	3,953
Total Charity Funds	30,673	22,422

Note: the split of funds for prior year is restated from figures shown in the 2021/22 final accounts to better reflect income and expenditure for that year and to correct the split of restricted and unrestricted funds brought-forward into 2022/23.

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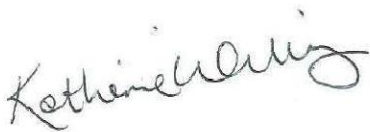
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CFNTW – High Sheriff of Northumberland	1,000	1,000
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CFNTW – Lendrum Family Fund	2,400	-
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Total	60,000	-

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Total Charity Funds	30,673	22,422

Note: the split of funds for prior year is restated from figures shown in the 2021/22 final accounts to better reflect income and expenditure for that year and to correct the split of restricted and unrestricted funds brought-forward into 2022/23.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
THE DUCHESS'S HIGH SCHOOL TRUST

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 March 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1038646

Set out on pages

1 to 12

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 03 / 2023.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, 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 all 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

J A Inglis-Jones

Date:

12 / 09 / 2023

Name:

J A Inglis-Jones

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

Chartered Management Accountant, Chartered Global Management Accountant

Address:

28-30 Main Street

Felton

Morpeth, Northumberland. NE65 9PN

Section B

Disclosure

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

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

[Empty box for disclosure details]