REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1192400

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR
FROM 1st January 2025 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2025
FOR ACTS (ACTIVE CHRISTIANITY IN THANET SCHOOLS)

ACTS

Active Christianity in Thanet Schools

Operating Name

ACTS (Active Christianity in Thanet Schools)

Registered Charity Number

1192400

Address:

c/o ST. PETERS BAPTIST CHURCH
VICARAGE STREET
BROADSTAIRS
CT10 2SG

Trustees

- Rev Rhodri Walters (Chair)
- Dilys Linsell
- Judith Andrews
- Maureen Armstrong
- Peter Weichselbaum-Barlow (from 8th October 2025)
- Sandra Leal (from 8th December 2025)

As a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) we are governed by a constitution. Trustees are appointed by existing trustees. New Trustees are approached depending on the skill base requirements of the charity and the experience of the individual. An informal process of interviews takes place before any appointment is put to the current Trustees and ratified. New Trustees are expected to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. They are also required to read the Charity Commission publication 'The Essential Trustee: What you need to know'. All trustees are also required to complete safeguarding training. The Trustees are aware of the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Bank

National Westminster Bank Plc
36 St Andrew Square
Edinburgh
United Kingdom
EH2 2YB

Contents

- Reference and Administrative Details Page 2
- Trustees' Annual Report Page 4
- Review of Financial Situation Page 9
- Statement of Financial Activities Page 10

Introduction from the Chair

ACTS exists to enable every child in Thanet to hear and experience the Good News of Jesus from someone who believes it to be true. We resource schools to explore issues of faith and spirituality, whilst helping churches to support their local school. Being able to collaborate with local churches enables the whole church in Thanet to do far more in supporting local schools together than they could do alone. Schools benefit by being supported to provide their students with spiritual, moral, social and cultural development as required, and the children benefit from having opportunity to engage with the Christian Faith, exploring its values, and participating in activities that encourage children to ask the big questions of life. Who am I? What am I here for? How did the world begin? Is there a meaning to life? 2025 has been a year of stability for ACTS as we've developed our team and enabled the beginnings of what we hope will be an effective way to reach into Secondary schools in ways that are meaningful and helpful for both schools and students.

Charitable Objectives

The purpose of ACTS is "To advance the Christian Faith through supporting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children, young people, their families, and those working with them, in schools and groups, and in conjunction with the churches in the area of Thanet for the public benefit."

What we do

ACTS aims to work with all Primary schools in Thanet, by offering activities that increase awareness and understanding of the Christian faith, explain how Christians practise their faith and help children, young people, their families and those working with them explore further links with schools and churches and the communities in which they are in. We do this through:

- Assemblies/Collective Worship
- R.E (Religious Education) Classroom Workshops
- Prayer/Reflection Spaces
- Year 6 Transition Workshop – 'It's Your Move'
- Christmas Unwrapped – Y6 Christmas Workshop in local churches
- Easter Cracked – Y6 Easter Workshops in local churches
- Lunchtime Clubs
- Staff Training/Resources/Support

Throughout 2025 ACTS had three workers making up the team:

- "Primary schools-work facilitator" who is employed part-time for 20 hours a week.
- "Volunteer Co-ordinator" who is employed part-time for 15 hours a week.
- "Project Manager" who is seconded to us for a day a week.

Our Project Manager also continued our exploration into what a Secondary Schools work project could look like. Alongside a couple of other local practitioners, they have developed 'Connected' a 6-week wellbeing programme for Secondary aged students. This has been trialled in a couple of local Secondary Schools during 2025.

Together, the team link in with church leaders and volunteers that assist in enabling the programmes to run. This year has seen an increase in our volunteer base which will enable ACTS to provide more support to both schools and churches. The work is overseen by a Board of Trustees who bring a variety of skills to support and encourage the work in schools and to assist it to operate efficiently and effectively. In 2025 we gained two new board members taking us up to 6 Trustees although we still are in need of a Treasurer.

ACTS relies on volunteers – these include members of churches from all around Thanet.

ACTS is a Local Mission Partner of Scripture Union, which provides governance support as well as resources for work with children and young people.

ACTS became a registered charity in November 2020 and this is our 5th annual report of the Trustees. The following update continues the story of how the work has developed:

2025

We hit the ground running in 2025 as the team built on a foundation of strong relationships with local Primary schools and churches. There are 18 churches regularly engaging with us on schools-work. We have also increased our engagement with other organisations to share Good Practice, e.g. Prayer Spaces in Schools, Bristol Schools Connection (who gave ideas on how we can develop our Easter Cracked workshop). Below, you will find listed some figures which give the 'big picture' of the work in schools and amongst churches, what it doesn't do however, is give us an insight into the impact on each individual child who experiences the assembly, workshop, prayer space, or lunch-time club.

- Lunch-time Club at St Peter's school, St Nicholas at Wade school, St Saviour's school, Garlinge Primary school & an after-school club at St Laurence Academy using Scripture Union's 'Rooted' material.
- Easter Cracked in 13 schools with around 500 pupils. (We built some flexibility into this workshop so that schools could choose which year group would benefit most from Easter Cracked, in terms of it linking in with their syllabus.)
- RE lessons at St Peter's School for Year 3.

- Collaborated with the Prayer Spaces in Schools team on a Prayer Space at St Saviours School, Westgate, and at Holy Trinity and St Johns school, Margate.
- Holy Trinity & St Johns school have invited ACTS to set up a permanent Prayer Space.
- Led the Year 6 Transition Workshop in 14 schools.
- Training for a new cohort of Open the Book volunteers.
- Led our 1st Open the Book assemblies at 2 local schools with a team of 5 volunteers.
- Both our Primary School workers have volunteered at Scripture Union, Minnis Bay. A great opportunity to establish local links and continuity with children.
- Made contact with local churches to update on the work, & individually with 10 church leaders to see how ACTS could support them.
- Organised and led the children's programme at the Ramsgate churches together Pentecost event.
- Led all-age service at Newington Free Church.
- Engaged with the Church of England diocese and received Collective Worship and RE planning training.
- Christmas Unwrapped for 19 schools (nearly 1000 children), including an SEN school. 15 volunteers from a variety of churches helped at these events.
- Christmas themed prayer space day for the primary section of Laleham Gap School.

ACTS was also able to begin a 'trial' of the Secondary school well-being programme 'Connected'. It was well received and both schools asked for it to continue. We completed four groups and will continue this into 2026 as we explore how best to support Secondary school aged children.

It was encouraging to welcome Peter Weichselbaum-Barlow as a Trustee in October, Peter is a Secondary School Teacher and brings with him experience from Primary Schools too. It was also encouraging to welcome Sandra Leal as a Trustee in December, Sandra has recently retired from her role as a Secondary School Maths teacher.

We continue to host our annual Supporters' evening which is always encouraging. We really are grateful for the support, input and expertise from all our partners, volunteers and friends. We are so thankful for all those that invest in this work and have enabled us to build a team. We remember how encouraged we were last year that we were able to set aside money for our 'future projects' with the aim of being able to employ a Secondary School worker in the future. However, we are mindful that we have stepped out in faith in increasing the team and we will need to increase the time that we invest in growing a sustainable model for our finances. Just like last year, we need to continue to widen our financial support base, to enable ACTS to not just sustain the current team but to further grow it in the future. As always, we are excited to see how ACTS continues to develop over the coming years.

Declaration:

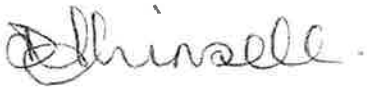
The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Rhodri Walters
Trustee (Chair)



Dilys Linsell
Trustee



REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1192400

ACTS (Active Christianity in Thanet Schools)

Financial Statements

Year End - 31 December 2025

Review of Financial situation

2025 has been a stable year for the ACTS team, whilst increasing the size of our Trustee Board to six, towards the end of the year. As the charity moves through 2026, like last year, there will need to be a greater focus on increasing its income by securing regular donations from individuals as well as regular or one-off donations from churches and schools.

Reserves

ACTS has a reserves policy and holds 3 months of all salaries and regular costs in reserve. With the costs of three employees the Trustees are mindful that income needs to significantly increase in order to not just maintain the current level of staffing but to expand the work fully into Secondary schools.

ACTS has used £7200 of the 'Future Projects Designated fund' this year as we have explored working in Secondary schools. Our aim is to employ a Secondary School-work Facilitator in the near future so that we can increase our overall provision. We aim to increase funds for this as we see it as essential for progressing our charitable objective by expanding into Secondary Schools, an area currently lacking in ACTS's work.

Going Concern

ACTS has been using some of its reserves intentionally to fund the Secondary Schools initiative. ACTS will need to generate more income from donations and fundraising to maintain its strong position.

Funding

Funds are generated through Mission Funding, Public Donations, Fund Raising, Sales and gift aid is claimed where applicable.

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of a grant.

Investments

The charity has made no investments and does not intend to during the next financial year.

Principal Risks

The charity's main risk is that most of its income comes from donations and it needs to continually seek new donors to ensure it remains financially viable.

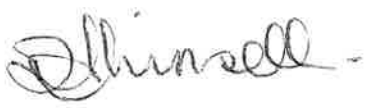
ACTS (Active Christianity in Thanet Schools)
Statement of Financial Activities

Year End 31 December 2025

ACTS (Active Christianity in Thanet Schools)	**as at 31st December 2025**
Capital Assets	-
Depreciation	-
Net Book Value	-
Accrued Cost	(1000)
Accrued Income	-
Bank Account: ACTS Current Account	24,782
Net Current Assets	**23,782**
Total Assets	**23,782**
Opening Balance	-
Retained Profit	30,155
Current Profit or Loss	(6,424)
Rounding	
Total Equity	**23,731**
Reconciled Breakdown of Funds:	
Restricted Funds - Grants	483
Unrestricted Funds	13,408
Designated Funds: Future Projects	9,840

ACTS (Active Christianity in Thanet Schools)	as at 31st December 2025
Mission Funding	1,146
Fundraising	849
Sales Income	1,088
Public Donation	24,038
HMRC Gift Aid	1,755
Total of Unrestricted Income	**28,876**
Salaries	21,000
Employers NIC	1444
Pension	203
Expenses	11,697
Insurances	178
Cost of Sales	779
Total of Unrestricted Expenditure	**35,301**
Surplus of Unrestricted Funds	**(6,424)**

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 23rd October 2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



D Linsell
Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO ACTS (ACTIVE CHRISTIANTIY IN THANET SHCOOLS)

CHARITY NUMBER 1192400

Independent examiner's report to the trustees
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report
The members of the charity 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 accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.



Richard Phillpott

Spurling Cannon
Chartered Certified Accountants
424 Margate Road
Westwood
Ramsgate
Kent
CT12 6SJ