

THE RICHMOND SCHOOL TRUST

Annual Report for the Richmond School Trust (RST)
September 2022 – August 2023

Charity Number: 529619

Contact address: c/o William Gedye 55 Maison Dieu, Richmond North Yorkshire DL10 7AU

Trustees and Officers:

Elaine Walton (Chair – co-opted); Annette Clark (Deputy Chair- co-opted); William Gedye (Treasurer – co-opted); Jacqui Walker (Trustee Co-ordinator - co-opted); Peter Clarke – co-opted) retired June 2023; Clive World (co-opted); Trevor Cook (co-opted); Nicola Wilson (co-opted parent representative); Stuart Parsons (NYCC Councillor) retired December 2022; Paul Harrison (Richmond Town Councillor); Lorraine Hodgson (Richmond Town Councillor); Philip Wicks (Richmond Town Councillor); Judy Hooton (Chair of the Local Governing Body of Richmond School)

Structure, governance and management

The Trust is managed by the Board of Trustees, all of whom are volunteers, receiving no fees or emoluments for their services.

The Trust has a minimum of 8 Trustees and a maximum of 13. It is made up of 7 or 8 Co-opted Trustees to be appointed by resolution of the Trustees, (one of whom is a parent representative) plus 3 Richmond Town Councillors, one North Yorkshire County Council (to become North Yorkshire representative and the Richmond School's Chair of the Local Governing Body. The Trust Officers have 2 yearly terms and are elected. They can hold those positions for a maximum of 3 terms. There is a Trust Co-ordinator who ensures induction paperwork, DBS checks and registration with the Charity Commission is completed.

Meetings are held 3 times a year with a Financial sub-committee to ensure best practice, meeting prior to the full Trust meeting.

The guiding strategic document for the Charity is its Scheme dated 29th December 1972 as amended on 7th July 2010 as amended by the scheme dated 23 August 2021 as amended by resolution, dated 10th March 2021.

The Objective of the Trust, as set out in the Scheme is to enable 'the Trustees to apply such of the yearly net income sum, as they think fit in providing such benefits, of any kind not normally provided by the Department for Education (or other relevant funding authority), for students of the school, as may from time to time be agreed upon.'

Funding is awarded at the discretion of the Trustees and may be awarded to Richmond School's current students and ex-students under 25 who are to continue their education and training.

Funding is also given to staff whose applications meet criteria to support a range of students.

Priority is given to those who are facing financial or other difficulties such as health conditions or other vulnerabilities.

Achievements and performance

The effects of COVID were still felt within the school as students adapted to coming back into full time education. The year had also seen the development of the cost-of-living crisis as families struggled to make ends meet. This impacted on a wider group than those covered by Pupil Premium (PP) and free school meals (FSM). A number of students also suffered from mental health issues, which needed addressing with treatment not always available via the NHS. Cuts in funding for the school have also impinged on what can be offered to the students.

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To meet our objectives, we worked to ensure that we had an understanding of the needs of the students primarily, supporting them, we had a clear understanding of the school's core values. The Trust is independent of Richmond School, but we continued to work closely with the school to ensure that the funds are targeted, effective and have a positive impact on the students.

We were able to spend £113,995 on grants over this period. This was achieved by careful management of the invested funds enabling us to support the wide range of activities as outlined below.

We continued to top up the **Head Teacher's fund** when needed. Uses included items of uniform and shoes, emergency bus fares, food, support with fares to get a student to school who was likely to get permanently excluded. The Head Teacher thanked the Trustees as this fund meant that issues could be dealt immediately as the need was identified.

We endeavoured to support the students and found that the categorisation has supported us when considering bids from individuals. We raised the profile among staff and students, so that applications have been higher than previous years and have also met the target audience. During the school year, we have had 40 successful bids from current students for activities within school. Requests for those on PP or FSM varied from music lessons and exams, theatre trips, trips to France and the Battlefields, and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. It has made things possible which might otherwise have been impossible.

French trip: *Thank you very much it is truly appreciated in these very financially hard times*
Support for student with music exams: *The student performed in the ABRSM exam board's high scorer concert in Stockton. This concert is for the students who at whatever grade scored the best highest in the Christmas exams. The student scored a very high distinction, so was the Grade 5 Clarinet representative in the concert!* Music Teacher

Other students may have issues around SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disability) or mental health so an example of support included a laptop with specialist software to support a student. Support was also given for the purchase of musical instruments, a prom ticket and theatre trips.

Prom: *Fabulous. We really appreciate the support; it helps a great deal.*

Having not had a year 11 prom due to covid made this one more meaningful

We have also supported 23 students for their out of school activities – this could be for participation in elite sport such as motor cycling, rugby, cycling, track and field. This funding can help with travel, for example costs to get a player to Newcastle Falcons for Academy training – he made the team. We also aimed to support those out of school activities that support individuals to develop skills and socialisation as well as financial need – purchase of rugby kit, a summer camp to give respite to a young carer, fees for a youth theatre group to develop social skills.

The course (at summer camp) really inspired me and made me more confident as a person. I made some great friends that I have since kept in contact with and I would definitely recommend it to other young people seeking adventure.

Thank you very much for making this possible.

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Track and Field: *“I am really looking forward to representing Yorkshire at the English School’s National Championships in March and will be focusing very intently on my training in the run-up to the event. Over the coming months, I have a number of competitions across the UK and I am most thankful to Richmond School Trustees for their support.”*

Cycling *“Just thought I’d keep you up to date as his season has got off to a fantastic start. Could you share this with the Trust members as they have been a big part of financing his career”*

We supported 13 recipients of the Brackenbury Award – a grant of £1,000 for those continuing with education and training at university, college of FE or an apprenticeship.

Examples include support for a student doing a 2-year condensed degree with little time for part time work; support for accommodation costs at FE colleges. Some students have to live away at such as an agricultural college because of travel issues – accommodation costs are significant even when on a bursary or scholarship. Support for tools for engineering and barbering apprenticeships and support for printers, living costs etc. for those moving on to university.

The awards are very much appreciated – a grateful mum

Thank you so much again for your help. This will make such a big impact on my education and hopefully will become a big step forward into my future career. This help has made a great difference, and not to mention lots of confidence going into my uni life. Student

Thank you so much for your email. I feel very lucky to have been chosen to receive the Brackenbury award and for the generous amount you have offered. (Student)

...we are so grateful for the support Richmond School Trust has given to her in helping her towards her career in dance. (Parent)

I can’t believe this email, I am so grateful it’s made me cry. Thankyou so so much, this has made things so much easier for us and I was just starting to worry (Parent)

We introduced into staff applications a request to look at which students are affected to ensure that the Trust is addressing needs across the school, with particular attention to those students who are vulnerable in some way. So, we requested data on how many students would be from vulnerable groups which included those with financial issues, SEND, students with health issues, Service children, young carers, those with additional pastoral needs and those who are the first in the family to attend university. We also understand that there have been cuts to funding schools, so we have taken into consideration that some materials will not be available to school departments. We do not fund those things that are curriculum based, but those things that can add value to the student experience.

To get a greater understanding of how our funding contributes to student development, we invited, in addition to the Head Teacher, members of staff into our meetings to expand on their work. Presentations have included feedback on the Chromebooks project and from the staff member, responsible for developing and improving wider participation in activities for vulnerable and services children. Trustees increased their knowledge of the school by attending events such as music concerts and the pantomime. A Trustees Cup was also awarded to a student showing outstanding commitment to the next phase of their education or work.

We received 32 staff applications during this period. The bids varied with one around health and wellbeing such as Flourished Minds and Just Be; equipment to support students such as the

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purchase of chrome books, milling machines, science equipment and identifiable clothing for activities; trips and visits – a visit by Simon Armitage, a visit to Science Live and London Galleries. We have found that the bids have improved so that we can see that we are engaging further with staff and meeting the needs of groups of students. It has also been brought to our notice that SEND and pupil premium students don't always seem to be clear about the available activities throughout the year. Additional activities were supported targeted at this group. Innovative workshops were supported such as British Sign Language. A combat workshop was well received. It is understood that some children won't go to an activity without a friend, so buddying was being developed. A bid for Wellbeing Ambassadors when the 6th form students with 2 staff will train others.

Chromebooks was one of our largest investments last year with £50,000 being allocated. Any funding not used will be returned and used elsewhere. We see that this has been a good investment as it has targeted those most in need. An audit was taken of the 140 Chromebooks ordered. 106 were allocated. 92 students are PP and 32 have identified SEND needs and 8 students are in need outside the parameters. All the families in these groups have been contacted for home access and dongles supplied, if necessary. It has been established that they largely support homework access. There has been a reduction in missing homework from 70 pieces across 100 children to 40 pieces. The Year 11 students are finding them helpful with revision. The impact on staff has helped reduce workload and tracking homework and marking. The project also supports Independent Learning.

A small grant can also impact on individual students such as £289 awarded for a sewing machine with simple controls for use by a SEND student and a science club award to support practical sessions – to bring science alive - £600.

Flourished Minds continued with coaching sessions for a further 5 selected students. The students have demonstrated concerning behaviour and are deemed to have low confidence, low self-esteem and struggle with social situations. These students need more specialist and intensive input and without it, they risk being permanently excluded from the school. Initially, students were selected from higher up the school, but this may be too late in the day. This year the work concentrated in earlier identification. Staff are being trained in these skills so that the project can continue on an in-service basis.

Feedback was received from the Richmond Royals for Cheer uniforms and Cheer Poms. The team of 14 is made up of 2 PPs students and 3 SEND students which took priority in the audition process. *Just wanted to email to say thank you again for everything you have done this year for funding our first ever cheerleading team. It really does make us stand out as a school in North Yorkshire and surrounding areas. I am delighted to say that yesterday at School Nationals in Manchester our amazing girls came 3rd.* Dance Teacher

Simple awards can also benefit a full range of students, so a coach was paid for to take 100 students and staff member to a Race for Life event.

I just wanted to email to say a HUGE thank you for your very kind and generous financial support for the Race for Life bus costs Your help with funding the transport meant we could keep costs down for

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our students ensuring it was an opportunity which could be enjoyed by as many as possible, raising £6,561 (with £1385.63 to add in gift aid) PE Teacher

Financial Review:

The Trust continued to invest with the Charities Ethical Investment Fund at the Churches, Charities & Local Authorities investment company (CCLA), based on our wish to invest in a company with high ethical standards and investments. The fund fluctuates on a daily basis but remains in a healthy position. A total of grants paid was £113,700. The total assets at the end of the financial year were £913,511. We were therefore still in a position in supporting the school with funds between £100,000 and £150,000. Shares were sold on an occasional basis with a gain on investments of £28,621. The financial position is checked on a regular basis to ensure that we allocate funding within our means to ensure the longevity of the funding available.

The accounts were examined by an Independent Examiner for the 12-month period, ending 31st August 2023, expressing that there were no concerns.

Annette Clark
Richmond School Trust Deputy Chair

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 529619

The Richmond School Trust

Accounts For The Financial Year Ending - 31 August 2023

**The Finance Team
October 2023**

The Richmond School Trust

Statement of Financial Activities

Year Ending 31 August 2023

The Finance Team present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name The Richmond School Trust

Charity registration number 529619

Principal office

55 Maison Dieu
Richmond
North Yorkshire
DL10 7AU

The Richmond School Trust

Statement of Financial Activities

Year Ending 31 August 2023

	2022-2023	2021-2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds
Income and Endowments		
Investment Income	30,542	32,535
Deposit Account Interest	220	16
Total Income	<u><u>30,762</u></u>	<u><u>32,551</u></u>
Expenditure		
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	113,770	99,069
Administration & Bank Charges	225	108
Forward Commitments	53,634	48,752
Total Expenditure	<u><u>167,629</u></u>	<u><u>147,928</u></u>
Net gain on investments	(28,621)	(63,013)
Net income and net movement of funds	<u><u>(165,487)</u></u>	<u><u>(178,390)</u></u>
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward	1,012,701	1,191,091
Grants brought Forward	66,297	N/A
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>913,511</u></u>	<u><u>1,012,701</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The Richmond School Trust

Statement of Financial Activities

Year Ending 31 August 2023

	Note	2022-2023	2021-2022
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Brought Forward		1,070,319	1,199,332
Gain/(Loss)		(28,621)	(63,013)
Purchase/(Sales)		(83,000)	(66,000)
Investments Carried Forward		958,698	1,070,319
Cash At Bank			
Current Account		7,261	328
Deposit Account Unity Trust Bank		1,177	0
Deposit Account CCLA		8	8,351
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		<u>53,634</u>	<u>66,297</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>(45,188)</u>	<u>(57,618)</u>
Total Assets less current liabilities		<u><u>913,511</u></u>	<u><u>1,012,701</u></u>

Investments are all held in the Charities Ethical Investment Fund of the CCLA.

At the Trustees meeting on 18 November 2020 a resolution was agreed to recognise the 'Total Return Investment' Approach to Income from investments.

	Investment Fund
Fixed Baseline Investment	630,000
Unallocated Total return	<u>377,799</u>
Total Fund at 18 November 2020	<u>1,007,799</u>

	Baseline	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Fixed Baseline Investment	630,000	630,000	630,000	630,000
Unallocated Total return	377,799	569,333	382,701	283,511
Total Fund	1,007,799	1,199,333	1,012,701	913,511

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 29 November 2023 and are signed on behalf of the board by:



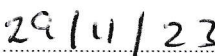
William Gedye
Treasurer



Date



Annette Clark
Chair of The Trustees



Date

The Richmond School Trust

Examiners Report

Year Ending 31 August 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Richmond School Trust ('the charity') for the 12 months ended 31 August 2021

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

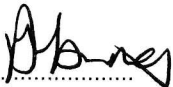
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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.


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28/10/23
.....

Anne Young
Independent examiner

Date

Period Ending 31 August 2022

1 General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated.

2 Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Fund accounting

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

Investments

expenditure.

Total Return Investment

At the Trustees meeting on 18 November 2020 a resolution was agreed to recognise the 'Total Return Investment' Approach to investments.

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 529619

The Richmond School Trust

Accounts For The Financial Year Ending - 31 August 2023

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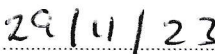
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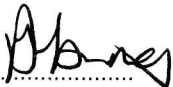
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