



## Church Schools of Cambridge - Overview

### Background

The Church Schools of Cambridge (The Trust) is a registered charity (no 311326), that was founded as the Old Schools Trust in 1703 by the Revd William Whiston. He raised funds from senior figures at the University to start seven schools which provided schooling for 260 poor children in Cambridge city. The Church Schools of Cambridge recently changed its name from the Old Schools Trust and it owns four primary school sites in the City of Cambridge – St Lukes, St Pauls, St Philips and Park Street. The main activities of the trust are to provide financial support to its four primary schools as well as funding activities that support the general provision of RE and Collective Worship in Church and non Church schools in the Cambridge area and supporting initiatives and research into the delivery of spiritually enriching education.

### Aims and objectives

The vision of the Trust is to, 'grow Christian environments where children can learn and flourish'. It seeks to undertake this vision through three objectives listed with the Charity Commission as:

1. Develop, maintain and repair the school property of four City schools
2. Provide grants to promote the education of persons under the age of 25 years within the City of Cambridge
3. Promote education within the City of Cambridge, according to the principles and doctrines of the Church of England by means including Sunday Schools

### Trust Supported Projects

In delivering the above objectives, the Trust currently supports the following activities which are summarised under Schools and Events/Initiatives, further information can be found on the website at [csoc.org.uk](http://csoc.org.uk).

#### a. School support

Activity	What it does
Schools grants & capital works	Annual grants are given to the four Schools that the Trust owns; the Trust also provides 10% towards the costs of capital projects within these schools. An annual grant is also given to St Bedes.  For our four schools we have provided laptops and counselling support during the COVID-19 pandemic. For more details on these projects please contact <a href="mailto:admin@csoc.org.uk">admin@csoc.org.uk</a>
Foundation Governors	CSoC appoints half of the schools Foundation Governors that make up the governing body at Park Street St Pauls and St Philip and also appoints community governors at St Lukes (as a DEMAT school). Ongoing support for these governors is being discussed with the Diocese
Collective Worship (CW)	Report produced and dissemination resources for class based Collective Worship have been developed, these will be circulated during the Summer 2020 depending on school openings

Diocese Regional Advisors programme	Provide financial support towards the running costs of the Ely Diocesan Regional Advisor (EDRA) project which offers help to all VA/VC Church Schools within the Ely Diocese
Wellbeing project	Diocese run leadership support programme for Church Schools in and around Cambridge area
Bibles for Y6 and 'It's your move'	Provision of Bibles and Its your move leaflets to all Cambridge Church School leavers
After School Clubs	Provide support to Romsey Mill towards the running costs of targeted after school groups in the North, East and South of Cambridge City – these are being reviewed due to current social distancing measures

## b. Events & Initiatives

Activity	What it does
Exhibitions	Trust led exhibitions for children to learn more about aspects of faith, these currently take place twice a year and are hosted by a Church.
Workshops	Trust led themed workshops which are normally hosted in a Church but can be school based. Workshops are 1.5 hours sessions and currently take place at Christmas, Easter and Pentecost.
Footprints walks	These are either lead by CSoC or can be self-guided walks around Cambridge city centre suitable for children of primary school or secondary age. They are designed to help children learn more about the history of Cambridge and the influence of Christian thinkers. At present the themes are Science, Human Rights and Catholic impact.
Great St Marys	The Trust part funds the Education Heritage Officer to develop RE materials and activities to support schools and youth groups as well as working with CSoC run events. To note Great St Mary's is currently closed (May 2020) and staff furloughed until further notice
Sunday school / children's workers grants	Provides small annual grants using the Jesus Lane trust, to Churches within Cambridge to support its work with children and links with Schools, more details can be found on the CSoC website
Research	The Trust has supported research into child spirituality, Collective Worship and Positive Improvement, full reports of these can be found on the CSoC website

**To note** – due to current social distancing rules and school restrictions (as of May 2020) we are unable to deliver our Exhibitions, Workshops and Footprints walks; we are developing activity sheets and online resources, details of which can be found on our website [csoc.org.uk](http://csoc.org.uk)

## **Trustees**

The Trust is currently supported by the following Trustees who are all volunteers:

Revd Ruth Adams  
Gill Ambrose  
Rev'd Janet Bunker  
Dr Keith Carne (Chair)\*  
Andrew Day\*  
David Farrer  
Cheryl Lowe\*  
Alistair Mack  
Andrew Maclellan (Vice-Chair & Treasurer)\*  
Rev'd Rachel Nicholls  
Matthew Pettifer  
Tricia Pritchard\*  
Andrew Read\*  
Rev'd Marguerite Roberts\*  
Richard Summers  
Rev'd Stewart Taylor

### **\*Are members of the Executive Committee**

Trustees form the governing body of the Trust, a meeting of all Trustees takes place three times a year. Day to day management of Trust activities is overseen by the Executive Committee who with the Director (Isobel Rawlinson) implements strategic decisions, allocate funding and oversees the organisation. There is also a Finance Committee who meets at least twice a year to review financial activities.