Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust

Registered Charity Number 1172358

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31st March 2026

Annual Report prepared by:

Sally McMahon, Trustee
Assisted by Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work

Accounts prepared by:

Claire Lim, Treasurer

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Sally McMahon

Sally McMahon – Chair of Trustees

Date: *29 July 2026*

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Registered Charity Number 1172358

Trustees	Sally McMahon (Chair from 14 May 2025) Timothy Barfoot Michael Bastable (Chair to 14 May 2025) Isabel Helen Burgess Jeffrey Fair Paul Hamilton Nicholas Higgs
Address	Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust 49 Coxtie Green Road Pilgrims Hatch Brentwood, Essex CM14 5PS
Independent Examiner	Shaun De Boo, Chartered Accountant
Bankers	Lloyds Nationwide Hampshire Trust Bank

In this report:

Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust, Charity Reference Number 1005207 is referred to as BSCWT.

Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust, Charity Reference Number 1172358 is referred to as BSCWT CIO.

This set of accounts is for BSCWT CIO.

Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust

Registered Charity Number 1172358

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the period ending 31 March 2026. The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's Public Benefit Guidance published in February 2014.

Objects of BSCWT CIO

BSCWT CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution. It is a Local Mission Partner of Scripture Union. We are supported by churches in the Brentwood area, 20 of whom have signed an agreement to support and have assented to the Basis of Faith of the Trust.

The Object of the CIO is, for the public benefit, to advance the Christian faith in Brentwood and other areas, in accordance with the Statement of Faith, by teaching and promoting the Christian faith in schools and other educational institutions or establishments and in such other ways as the Charity Trustees shall think fit.

Our mission is to serve school communities by providing Christian learning and support. This includes providing lessons, pastoral care, assemblies, lunch time groups and prayer spaces, and developing positive relationships with the schools and pupils we serve. We also encourage local churches to become more involved in their local schools.

Our Core Values are:

1. A relational approach
2. A prayerful spirit
3. A servant heart.

Organisational structure and management

BSCWT CIO is administered by its Trustees, elected at Trustee meetings. We seek to be as representative of the local church community as possible. The Trustees meet bi-monthly and are responsible for the legal and financial affairs of the Trust.

In line with Charity Commission guidelines the Trustees ensure that the Trust has a Reserves Policy to cover its legal liabilities should the CIO be wound up. The Trust retained an amount of £55,000 to enable the payment of wage bills based on notice periods, national insurance, pension and redundancies as well as rent and other known expenses. This requirement has been met in 2025/26. The reserve level is reviewed periodically and has been revised for the next financial year.

As stated above, the Trustees have continued to meet bi-monthly and this has mostly been by a hybrid of in person and conference calls (zoom meetings). This is largely due to one of our Trustees being based in Norfolk making meeting in person for him difficult.

The work of BSCWT in schools has continued at pace this year and a full account from the Director of Schools Work follows this Trustee report. Our Christmas, Easter and It's Your Move lessons in primary schools remain our biggest projects, reaching about a thousand pupils a term. They help pupils to understand the meaning of these Christian festivals and support them in the transition to secondary school. The team has also taken lessons and workshops in secondary schools, for example on the topic of exam stress, and RE Question and Answer sessions.

All our work takes place at the invitation of schools in the area, and we are pleased to work with them and support their exploration of the RE curriculum. We continue to deliver assemblies in many primary, secondary and specialist schools and also work with several schools as Chaplains to support individual students who are finding life tough. All sorts of creative activities take place in our lunchtime clubs and prayer spaces, when we look at Bible stories and take time to reflect on some of the big questions children and young people have. The comments we receive from children (and teachers) at these events are inspiring. At the end of every academic year we send a questionnaire to schools asking for comments on our work, and we are pleased to have received much positive and encouraging feedback.

All these activities would not be possible without our hard-working and creative staff, Ian, Sue, Fiona, Alison, Frances, Holly and Evie. We thank them for being so passionate about their work. Thank you too to our Associate Workers (AWs) for their support, especially with large projects and lunchtime groups. Several new AWs have joined us this year. We also thank our volunteer Monitoring Team, who visit several events a term and feed back to staff. Finally, we would like to thank Nick Tavener who has retired after acting as our Independent Examiner for many years.

Much Trustee time this year has been focused on financial matters. From March to December 2025, the Trust ran a fundraising campaign to enable our work to continue without reducing our offer to schools. We want to thank all individuals and churches who contributed, either by donating monthly or by a one-off donation. We now have 100 regular monthly donors and total donations by the end of December were the equivalent of 213 donors of £25 per month over the next three years, exceeding our target of 200.

We hope that the funds raised will secure our work in schools for the next three years and are making plans to spend funds wisely. There will be a few changes, for example, our Lead Schools Worker, Sue Evans, will be retiring at the end of August, and Fiona has handed over some of her administrative responsibilities to Evie.

There are so many opportunities to serve schools in the coming year. We look forward to building on our relationships with schools and introducing new volunteers to our work. Please keep praying that we will have a positive impact on all the children and teachers that we meet.

Review of Activities

The year from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 has been another encouraging year of ministry for the Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust (BSCWT). We have continued to serve schools across the Brentwood area through assemblies, lessons, prayer spaces, clubs and pastoral support. We remain deeply thankful for the dedication of our staff team, volunteers, trustees, church partners and supporters whose commitment enables this work to flourish.

Assemblies / Collective Worship

Throughout the year, our team led over 180 assemblies across 28 schools.

In primary and specialist schools, our assemblies explored Bible stories from the lives of David and Peter. During the summer term 2025, pupils reflected on themes including temptation and worship through stories from David's life. In the autumn and spring terms, we focused on Peter's journey as a disciple of Jesus, considering themes such as following Jesus, becoming more like him, recognising who Jesus is, making mistakes and experiencing forgiveness. These assemblies encouraged pupils to connect Biblical stories with their own everyday experiences and choices.

In secondary schools, our assemblies addressed a range of themes relevant to young people today, including peace, forgiveness, success, empathy, helping others, Easter and coping with exam stress. Alongside these assemblies, we also delivered two assembly-related 'pop-up prayer spaces', giving students opportunities to reflect more deeply on themes of service, forgiveness and Easter.

One teacher commented: *"I wish we could have you do our assemblies every week!"*

"I wish we could have you do our assemblies every week!"

Lessons, Projects and Prayer Spaces



It's Your Move 2025

Our *It's Your Move* project once again supported Year 6 pupils as they prepared for the transition to secondary school. During the summer term of 2025, we delivered the lessons in 25 primary schools, helping more than 850 pupils navigate this important stage of their education. Through the generous support of local churches, every pupil was able to receive an *It's Your Move* book, published by Scripture Union. A primary school teacher remarked: *"It's Your Move each year is a super resource for the transition to secondary school."*

During the year, we delivered 50 *OT/NT Mini* (formerly *Bible Explorer*) lessons across 7 schools, helping pupils engage with key stories and themes from both the Old and New Testaments. One school created a display board featuring photographs of pupils demonstrating the hand signs used in the *OT/NT Mini* lessons, providing a creative reminder of what they had learned. In one secondary school, we also provided a series of 'Question & Response' lessons to support Year 11 students preparing for their Religious Education examinations.

Our Christmas and Easter projects continue to be highly valued by schools. During the Christmas season, nearly 900 pupils from 19 schools participated in either our *Christmas Wonder* or *Darkness to Light* projects. *Christmas Wonder* sessions took place in 7 host churches, enabling pupils to experience the Christmas story within a church setting and reflect on the significance of Jesus' birth.



Darkness to Light

Our Easter projects reached over 1,100 pupils across 21 schools through *Love Easter* and *Sadness to Joy* sessions. Many of the *Love Easter* sessions were hosted in local churches, providing opportunities for pupils to engage with the Easter story in an interactive and reflective way. At the end of one *Love Easter* session, a pupil reflected on what they had learned, saying: *"It's never too late for forgiveness!"* A teacher wrote: *"Thank you so much for running such a brilliant workshop, reminding our pupils of the real meaning of Easter."*

"Thank you for running such a brilliant workshop…"

Prayer spaces continue to play an important role in our work, creating opportunities for pupils to reflect on life, faith and spirituality in creative and accessible ways. During the year, we delivered 13 prayer space events, including primary school prayer spaces and 'pop-up' prayer spaces in secondary schools. Themes explored included peace, friendship, forgiveness, encouragement, rest, thankfulness, cheerfulness and seeking help. We were particularly pleased to introduce a new pre-SATs prayer space event, designed to support Year 6 pupils as they prepared for their assessments. Activities encouraged pupils to consider what is truly important, to find moments of rest and reflection, and to draw confidence from the support around them.

During the year, we also piloted two other new prayer space initiatives. Our *Curiosity Dips* offered portable, reflective activities exploring topics such as achievements, emotions, perseverance, courage, forgiveness and talking to God. In addition, our new *Thinking Areas* provided spaces for pupils to reflect on themes including friendship, humility and truthfulness.

Pupil Support

Our team of Chaplains continues to be warmly welcomed into schools, providing valuable support for pupils facing a wide range of personal challenges. During the year, our Chaplains served in 8 schools, supporting over 100 pupils through more than 750 one-to-one sessions.

Pupils were supported with issues including anxiety, self-esteem, friendships, family difficulties, bereavement, resilience and emotional wellbeing. The positive impact of this work continues to be recognised by both schools and students.

One deputy headteacher commented: *"Our students always tell us how much better they feel when they speak to one of your team."* One student wrote: *"My week doesn't go quite right if I don't see the Chaplain."* Another shared: *"You made me feel really OK when I felt like nothing was, and you helped me heal so much. I have stopped many things that were impacting my life so negatively. I have learned to not give up all the time and that I can still trust some people."*

"You made me feel really OK when I felt like nothing was, and you helped me heal so much."

Alongside individual support, we also facilitated several small-group interventions. These included exam stress workshops, an anxiety workshop and two *Caterpillars* courses designed to help younger pupils develop resilience, self-esteem, confidence and healthy relationships.

Clubs

During the year, we ran lunchtime clubs in 4 primary schools and 1 secondary school, delivering more than 100 sessions. These clubs provide welcoming spaces where pupils can explore questions of faith, reflect on life and build positive friendships.

In primary schools, sessions covered topics including the Fruit of the Holy Spirit, miracles from the Old Testament and miracles performed by Jesus. In our secondary school club, *Wonder Space*, students explored themes such as friendship, dealing with unkindness, purpose in life, how God might get our attention and the role of angels. We were also pleased to introduce *Wonder Space* take-home bags, providing students with reflective activities to continue their exploration beyond the club setting. These resources encouraged reflection on themes such as peace, thankfulness, prayer, gifts and talents, the night sky, praying for others, treasure and our place in the universe. In addition, we have been delighted to be able to provide support to students in two secondary schools who wanted to start *Christian Union* groups.

As always, we are grateful for the volunteers who support this area of our work and help create welcoming and engaging environments for young people.

And Finally...

Prayer remains central to all that we do. Our weekly team prayer meetings have continued throughout the year, and we have encouraged churches and supporters to pray regularly for local schools, not least at times such as *Back to School Sunday*, *Schools Ministry Sunday* and *Pray for Schools Fortnight*. Through newsletters, prayer calendars, video updates and weekly prayer communications, we have sought to keep supporters informed and involved in this vital aspect of our ministry.

We continue to value our partnerships with local churches and other Christian organisations who share our vision of serving schools across the Brentwood area. We are particularly grateful to the churches that hosted our *Christmas Wonder* and *Love Easter* projects during the year, helping pupils encounter Christianity in meaningful and memorable ways.

One school expressed its appreciation by saying: *"We feel that the support your workers and volunteers show to our school is invaluable. We are so grateful to the entire team and feel that our school would absolutely be worse off if the support ceased. The BSCWT team are valued as an integral part of the school family."*

"We feel that the support your workers and volunteers show to our school is invaluable."

We are immensely grateful to our Trustees, Associate Workers, Church Representatives, Support Teams, Panel of Reference and all who volunteer their time and expertise. We thank Trinity Church for continuing to provide and maintain our office space, and we remain thankful for all those who support BSCWT through prayer, encouragement and financial giving. We also extend our deep appreciation to our dedicated and hard-working staff team.

Above all, we give thanks to God for his faithfulness, guidance and provision throughout the year, and for the privilege of serving the children, young people and schools of the Brentwood area.

Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work

Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust

Registered Charity Number 1172358

REPORT OF TREASURER

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026

General Fund (Unrestricted)

	BSCWT CIO 2025/2026	BSCWT CIO 2024/2025	Notes to the accounts
Receipts			
Individuals	57,556	33,023	
Transfer of General Funds from BSCWT (Individuals)	1,036	401	
Churches	14,583	16,265	
Charitable Trusts	6,300	3,000	
Transfer of General Funds from BSCWT (Charitable Trusts)	0	0	
Other Organisations	4,102	5,002	
Income Tax Recovered	25,313	9,196	
Bank interest received (Lloyds and Nationwide)	3,377	4,100	
Bank interest received (HTB)	3,868	383	1
It's your move contributions	1,074	1,029	
Legacies	0	0	
Total income	**117,209**	**72,399**	
Payments			
Office and Admin	10,797	10,517	
Staff salaries and pensions	127,144	115,777	
Staff activities	2,332	2,889	
Staff support and training	913	471	
Subscriptions and donations	659	650	
Equipment, computers, software and website	591	575	
Premises improvements	0	0	
Bank charges and interest	147	124	
Professional fees	1,092	1,058	
Total payments	**143,675**	**132,061**	
Surplus / (Deficit)	**(26,466)**	**(59,662)**	
Transfer from unrestricted funds	84,550	68,150	
Surplus / (Deficit) after transfer of unrestricted funds	58,084	8,488	
Balance brought forward	**149,831**	**141,343**	
Balance at year end	**207,915**	**149,831**	

1. *Hampshire Trust Bank issue a statement in April after the year end confirming the interest earned from savings in the period covered by these accounts. Interest figure given is that for the previous financial year.*

Summary of Restricted and Unrestricted funds

Legacy and Large Gifts Unrestricted Fund

	BSCWT CIO 2025/2026	BSCWT CIO 2024/2025
Receipts	145,408	21,028
Payments	0	0
Surplus / (Deficit)	**145,408**	**21,028**
Transferred to General Fund	84,550	68,150
B/F balance	**61,297**	**108,419**
C/F balance	**122,155**	**61,297**

Summary of Receipts, Payments and Transfers in 2025/26

	General Fund	Mulberry Trust Fund	Legacy & Gifts Fund	Totals
Receipts	117,209	0	145,408	262,617
Payments	143,675	0	0	143,675
Surplus / (Deficit)	**(26,466)**	**0**	**145,408**	**118,942**
Transfers to General Fund	84,550	0	(84,550)	0
B/F Balance	**149,831**	**0**	**61,297**	**211,128**
C/F Balance	**207,915**	**0**	**122,155**	**330,070**

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Current Assets

	BSCWT CIO 2025/2026	BSCWT CIO 2024/2025
Interest from Nationwide	272	282
Lloyds Current account	48,660	10,056
Lloyds Deposit account	61,138	30,790
Nationwide Savings account	100,000	85,000
Hampshire Trust Bank	120,000	85,000
Total Assets	**330,070**	**211,128**

Fixed Assets

BSCWT CIO owns computers and other equipment used in its work. The insured value of general contents is £52,000 and computer equipment is £10,446.

Notes to the Accounts

Reserves Policy

In line with Charity Commission guidelines the Trustees ensure that the Trust has a Reserves Policy to cover its legal liabilities should the CIO be wound up. The Trust retained an amount of £55,000 to enable the payment of wage bills based on notice years, national insurance, pension, redundancies as well as rent and other known expenses. This requirement was met.

Basis of the accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a "receipts and payments" basis in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Financial Review

On 15th March 2017 a new CIO charity was set up namely Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust Charity Reference Number 1172358. These accounts refer to this charity.

Between 1st April 2025 and 31st March 2026, a number of donations were received by BSCWT, which were transferred to BSCWT CIO bank account.

General Fund receipts for BSCWT CIO 2025/26 were £117,209 and General Fund payments were £143,675 giving a net deficit of £26,466.

An amount of £84,550 was budgeted and transferred from the Legacy and Gifts Unrestricted Fund to the General Fund to cover the deficit.

During 2025/2026, £2,082 was paid by Church of England, Chelmsford Diocese for our contribution to the work on the "Prayerfully Learning Together" project. The money received has been included in the receipts from "Other organisations" in the accounts.

The Current Assets are held in four separate bank accounts.

1. Lloyds current account for day-to-day receipts and payments.
2. Lloyds deposit account where surpluses from the current account are transferred and earn a small interest.
3. Nationwide 90-day account
4. Hampshire Trust Bank (where the Reserves funds are kept)

No payments were made to the Trustees.

Restricted Fund

There are currently no restricted funds retained by the Trust.

Unrestricted Fund

Legacy and Gifts Unrestricted Fund

A balance of £61,297 was carried forward from 2024/2025. During this financial year it was agreed by the trustees to reduce the threshold for holding donations in the legacy fund from a minimum limit of £5,000 to £1,500.

Due to a large fundraising drive during this year a number of large generous donations were made which were placed in the Legacy and Gifts unrestricted fund including the sums of £16,000, £45,000, £8,000 and £25,000 made by individuals and a legacy of £22,235. £84,550 was transferred to the General Fund during the year leaving a balance to be carried forward of £122,155.

Legacy and large Gift Policy

Legacies and Gifts of £1,500 and above are held within either a Restricted or Unrestricted Fund. Any amounts received that are under £1,500 are put into the General Fund unless there is a restriction to their use.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust (Charity Number 1172358)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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 *Shaun De Boo*

Name: Shaun De Boo
Chartered Accountant

Address: Shenfield
Brentwood
Essex

Date *6 September 2026*