

The Oxford School of Thought (A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 1 April 2020

Charity number: 1161778
Date of registration: 21 March 2015

Cranmer House
10 High Street
Wheatley
Oxford OX33 1XX

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees of The Oxford School of Thought present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 1 April 2020. In the very latter part of the year, the decision was taken to energise the organisation and commence its work which has been some four years in its preparation. The results and activities will be better presented in the annual report for the year ended 1 April 2021 but I am pleased to give an outline of the activities up to and including September 30th, 2020.

Review of Activities and Achievements

Over the past 5 years OST has been gaining knowledge, reviewing and renewing contacts and building a team of likeminded individuals with the experience and drive to change the landscape in Education moving towards a position where it is best placed to promote the changes needed. Since March OST has been actively planning the generation of open public debate in a way which will lead to innovation and advancement in educational practice to improve the lives of all.

Aims and Objectives

The Oxford School of Thought was founded by educators as a truly independent Primary Education think tank - the first of its kind in the UK - to advance the public exchange of ideas generated and opinions discussed between experts in their field in the world of education. This will include research and much wider distribution and consumption of material. The intention is to have a positive impact on the way that education is delivered, whether state or independent (private).

The current situation

Whist there are numerous education conferences in which some ideas are generated, the majority are for educators, delivered by educators, and the vast majority of attendees are those in senior positions or have the time to spend attending conferences. Speakers and contributors are often uttering warm words of wisdom but achieving very little change. Seldom are policy makers present, few if any parents are invited.

Generally, the entire process is inward looking.

At the time of writing, the entire education landscape has changed by an invisible and unforeseen (for many) virus which has wreaked havoc on the plans of so many people around the world. As entire communities have locked down and schools been closed, the previous natural process of

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educating children has been overturned. The difference in attainment or achievement between the 'have's and have-nots' has increased dramatically this has led many to join the discussion about changing the way we educate children, OST will be at the forefront of this discussion.

Future

This next year marks the beginning of our substantial efforts to influence policy makers. Following the successful rebuild and launch of our website and with the active participation of our extended team and the list of well-known associates who are supporting us, we have planned a series of live recorded short talks. Speakers have been carefully curated to express views and share knowledge and thinking across education and those who recruit the output from the education processes. Audiences for these events will have the unique opportunity of discussing all phases of the education cycle. The recording, with high quality productions, will enable a much wider audience to be informed.

We intend to deliver our aims and objectives through this series of live events, research and much wider distribution and consumption of material.

We look forward to reporting our progress and achievements in our next Trustees Report for the year ended 1 April 2021.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Oxford School of Thought is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution.

Trustees are recruited for their wide experience and skills to contribute to the achievement and advancement of the Charity's objectives

The following Trustees served throughout the year to 1 April 2020:

Peter Cansell
Alexander Cansell
Ruth Bennie (Retired on 14th June 2020)

Ruth Bennie retired as required by the constitution, having completed two terms of office. Ruth supported The Oxford School of Thought in their formative years. We thank her for her valued contribution.

On 14 June 2020 Mr Philip Marples was appointed as a Trustee. Philip Marples is a highly respected Headteacher, writer and conference organiser and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Board.

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Financial Statements

There has been no income or expenditure during the year to 1 April 2020 (2019: nil).

As at 1 April 2020 The Oxford School of Thought had charitable assets of £300 (2019 £300). These assets comprise unrestricted funds.

The Trustees Report and financial statements were approved by the board on 30th September 2020.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Cansell', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Peter Cansell
Chair of Trustees
30th September 2020

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Balance Sheets

	1 April 2020 £	1 April 2019 £
Unrestricted funds: cash at Bank	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>
Total Charity Funds	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>

There were no receipts or payments of funds during the year to 1 April 2020 (2019 nil).

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 30th September 2020 and signed on their behalf by:



Peter Cansell

Chair of Trustees
The Oxford School of Thought
30th September 2020
