

FUTURE ACADEMY UK

Registered Charity Number 1190708



Annual Trustees' Report

Period Ending: 31st December 2024

Future Academy UK Reference and Administration Information:

Charity Number: 1190708

Date of Registration: 04.08.20

Operational Address: Brierley, First Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex CO13 9EX

Website: www.future-academyuk.net

Trustees

Martin Watts (Chair)

Alexander Barnard

Damien Gabet

Elizabeth Roberts

Jane Watts

Bankers

Barclays Bank

Registered Office: 1 Churchill Place, London E14 5HP

Future Academy UK was registered by The Charity Commission as a CIO in August 2020 (Charity No. 1190708). This is the report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 December 2024.

Aims and Objectives

The Future Academy Trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year in January. This report looks at what the charity has achieved; the outcomes of its work in the reporting period and the benefit brought to the young people it supports.

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular the Trustees consider how the planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

The objects of Future Academy UK are for the public benefit to advance in life and relieve the needs of refugees up to the age of 18, living in the UK and overseas, by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals.

Future Academy UK furthers its objects by providing financial support to enable volunteer teachers (from partner, UK-registered charities) to deliver charitable activities to refugee children in the UK and overseas.

Achievements and Performance

In 2024 Future Academy UK supported volunteer teachers working for our sister charity, Future Academy, in Lebanon, providing funding towards travel and living costs. Volunteer teacher Chris spent eight months in Beirut, teaching in Burj Barajneh and Shatila refugee camps. 188 students participated in educational charitable activities led by Chris, working alongside football coaches and teachers from the local refugee community. Two Beirut-based teachers also volunteered their time and expertise: Tala provided maternity cover for 3 months and Jake delivered kick-boxing masterclasses to Burj Barajneh students.



In September 2024, the Israel–Hezbollah conflict escalated, with a sustained bombing campaign in southern Lebanon spreading to Beirut. Approximately one million people were internally displaced, and more than 4,000 were killed. Although Burj Barajneh and Shatila camps were not directly targeted, many residents fled in search of safer shelter. Volunteer teacher Chris remained in Beirut and joined the FA team providing humanitarian assistance and educational outreach for displaced students living in UN shelters. Future Academy resumed normal activities following the ceasefire announcement at the end of November.

In 2024, two trustees made self-funded trips to Beirut. They met the Future Academy (FA) team and beneficiaries; visited the camps where FA operate; observed and participated in some of the activities; and saw the positive impact of Future Academy UK's funding.



Future Plans

Our aims for 2025 are to:

Support partner charities by providing travel-related expenses for teachers volunteering their services overseas. Expenses for other costs incurred by teachers on long term placements may be considered. The trustees will assess each case on an individual basis. Volunteer teachers will provide written and photographic evidence and partner charities will provide an impact statement at the end of each placement.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties. The public benefit of the Charity's activities is to advance in life and relieve the needs of refugees, up to the age of 18; this is achieved by providing the children with regular educational activities which enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible citizens.

Structure, Governance and Management

Future Academy UK was registered as a CIO with the Charities Commission in August 2020. The governing document is the Charity Commission's Foundation Model Constitution. Future Academy has a board of five Trustees, who have a varied skillset.

Three Trustees are key officials who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the charity. The Chair is appointed to the board for an initial period of four years; the treasurer and secretary are appointed for three years; and the remaining two Trustees are appointed for two years. (Existing Trustees may be reappointed for additional terms).

The Trustees will consider recruitment of new Trustees as the need arises. Applications from suitable candidates would be sought by identifying specific gaps in professional skills and seeking recommendations of professionally qualified candidates, if necessary, placing advertisements in suitable publications. Applicants would be provided with an information pack outlining the history of the organisation, its structure, activities and objectives, roles and expectations of Trustees plus other relevant supporting information. All new Trustees receive copies of the Governing Document, the latest annual report and accounts.

The board meets as often as necessary; as outlined in the Governing Document, meetings may be held electronically providing Trustees are able to communicate with all other participants. The quorum for meetings is 2 Trustees. Future Academy UK policies are reviewed by the Trustees on an annual basis along with the risk register.

Financial Review

Future Academy UK raises funds from the public, charitable trusts and workplace giving schemes. Some funds are restricted to Future Academy (Beirut) charitable activities; all other funds are unrestricted. We do not use professional fundraisers. When revenue reaches £25,000 Future Academy UK will be required to have their accounts independently examined. Until that time the accounts will be reviewed by Trustees not involved in the day-to-day running of the activities.

In 2024 total receipts were £6,872 and expenditure totalled £8,081.

All expenditure on charitable activities related to three volunteer teachers working in two refugee camps in Beirut. In addition, £102 was spent on governance (bank charges) and £89.15 on raising funds (website costs). Cash funds remaining at the end of December 2024 amounted to £8,982.

We estimate both income and expenditure in 2025 will be approximately £9,000.

Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

Future Academy UK does not pay any Key Management Personnel.

Trustee Expenses

Future Academy UK does not pay trustee expenses.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain reserves allowing Future Academy UK activities to run for 6-12 months. This will provide stability and enables us to honour our commitments to refugee children. Our current reserves equate to roughly 12 months, which suggests we are maintaining an appropriate level of liquidity whilst ensuring that excessive funds are not accumulated. The adequacy of this policy is reviewed annually.

Details of Any Funds Materially in Deficit

The Trustees declare that the charity had no funds which were materially in deficit at the date of the statement of assets & liabilities.

Particulars of Any Outstanding Guarantee Given by the Charity

The Trustees declare that the charity has given no guarantee where potential liability is outstanding at the date of the statement of assets & liabilities.

Particulars of Any Outstanding Debt

The Trustees declare that the charity has no outstanding debts which are secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the charity at the date of the statement of assets & liabilities.

Risk

The Trustees have identified the major risks facing the Charity and have established procedures to mitigate them. These measures are monitored, regularly reviewed, and documented in the risk register. The primary risks anticipated for 2025 include sustaining revenue streams and covering increased safety and security costs for volunteer teachers as a result of the ongoing conflict in Lebanon.