

The Willingham British School Trust
An Educational Charity Registered Number 311393

8, Saxon Way, Willingham, Cambridge CB24 5UT.
Telephone: 01954 261113 raycroucher47@gmail.com

Annual Report for the year ending 5th April 2019, prepared for the Willingham Annual
Parish Meeting, May 2019.

Willingham British School Trust is a registered charity which awards educational grants to benefit the young people of the village through individual or institutional applications. March 2019 marked the 40th anniversary of the setting up of the charity in 1979.

The Trustees can report another busy and successful year. They have met three times in the past year, in April, October and January. In the past year the Trustees have met at the Primary School, the Baptist Church and, more recently, Willingham Youth Trust. The Baptist Church has generously offered the Trustees a meeting place in past years but is now too busy to accommodate us. The past support of the Baptist Church is gratefully acknowledged. Lynda Blunt, who has served as a Trustee for several years, submitted her resignation in April 2018 due to other commitments. The Trustees thank Lynda for her enthusiasm for the Trust's activities and are grateful for the positive support she has given to her fellow Trustees.

Interest in the Trust's activities remains strong. Reports of the Trust's meetings and dates of meetings of the Trustees continue to be placed in the Willingham News and on the Willingham Facebook page. The Trustees believe that this has increased the number of applications received from young people starting their undergraduate university and apprenticeship programmes.

Of the funds distributed by the Trustees during 2018-2019 over 60% has been given in grants for Willingham Primary School and Cottenham Village College. Two thirds of these funds were given to the Primary School to enable an upgrade to the School Library stock. Cottenham Village College has received two smaller grants, also for the purchase of new books for its Library. In both cases the School and the College are responding to the requirements of new national curricula. An additional award was made to Willingham Youth Trust, which applied for funds to develop its ongoing Youth Club activity and offer coding sessions for adults.

Fewer individual grants from the Trust were made this past year. The Trust awarded grants to three University undergraduates studying English Literature, Business

Management and Primary Education at York, Exeter and Plymouth Universities. A travel grant was also awarded to support the costs of a three month work-based placement in Barcelona. After several years without any requests to support apprenticeships two successful applications were received this year.

The Trust is more frequently required to demonstrate its compliance with the current regulatory environment. The Annual Return to the Charity Commission has been completed successfully and Blackrock Investment Management, which manages two of the Trust's accounts, has been supplied with updated Anti-money Laundering verification documents for the signatories to these accounts.

The Trustees look forward to continuing to provide positive support during 2019-2020 for educational activities which will help to enrich and support the life of Willingham's young people. Potential applicants for grants to support general educational costs or travel associated with education are always advised to approach any of the Trustees with early enquiries so that the appropriateness of any funding request can be given proper and prompt consideration.

Ray Croucher
Secretary, Willingham British School Trust