

**The Willingham British School Trust**  
An Educational Charity Registered Number 311393  
8, Saxon Way, Willingham, Cambridge CB24 5UT.  
Telephone: 01954 261113 [raycroucher47@gmail.com](mailto:raycroucher47@gmail.com)

Annual Report for the year ending 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

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.

The Trustees are pleased to report another busy and successful year. They meet three times a year, every April, October and January, usually in the Baptist Church. The support provided by the Baptist Church in helping the Trustees conduct their business during 2017-2018 is gratefully acknowledged. 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. To widen awareness of the Trust's activities and the opportunities for support that it offers notice of our meetings is now placed on the Willingham Facebook page. There is some indication that this has impacted on the number of applications received by the Trust from young people starting their undergraduate university programmes.

Of the funds awarded by the Trustees during 2017-2018 approximately 60% have been given in individual grants. Individual grants from the Trust made this past year are supporting the costs of University undergraduate programmes for a range of subjects including Classics, Art and Psychology, Drama and Paramedic Science. These programmes are sited in a geographically diverse group of universities – between Edinburgh to the north and Bournemouth to the south.

Support for Willingham Primary School and Cottenham Village College is an important priority for the Trustees. Just less than 25% has been given to support applications from Cottenham Village College. Cottenham Village College received grants for the purchase of textbooks to be used in its GCSE courses for Spanish, History, Geography, Spanish and Physical Education. Unusually the Primary School has not requested any funding in the past year. This has been partly due to a new Headteacher taking up post in January 2018. An additional contributory factor has been the need to await the outcomes of an OFSTED inspection – completed successfully in January 2018 - which might have been expected to highlight areas of teaching needing improvement. A meeting was held in January with the incoming Headteacher to advise him of the opportunities for support that the Trust offers.

The remaining funds were awarded this year to 1<sup>st</sup> Willingham Scouts Group. The Group applied for funds to support the replacement of a range of food preparation items for use both indoors and outdoors. No applications for support of apprenticeships have been made during the past year, despite the increasing priority given to these in national educational policy.

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. In addition Blackrock Investment Management, which manages two of the Trust's accounts, has asked for updated Anti-money Laundering verification documents for the signatories to these accounts.

Potential applicants are always advised to approach any of the Trustees with early enquiries so that the appropriateness of any funding request can be given proper consideration.

The Trustees look forward to providing positive support during 2018-2019 for educational activities which will help to enrich and support the life of Willingham's young people.

Ray Croucher  
Hon. Secretary