



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1 st	April	2019		31 st	March	2020

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Asian Students Christian Trust

Other names charity is known by

Children of the Dump

Registered charity number (if any)

272328

Charity's principal address

High Cross Church	
Knoll Road	
Camberley	
Postcode	GU15 3SY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Kay Mackay	Chair		
2	Alison Jean Morey	Vice Chair		
3	John Wenger	Treasurer		
4	June Cobbett			
5	Lydia Janet Osmond-Davis			
6	Fred Little			
7	David Regan			
8	Michael James Kelly			
9	Mark Fryer		From 19 th October 2019	
10	Benet Fryer		From 19 th October 2019	
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

John Busby - Manager

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by the Board

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

<p>The relief of poverty amongst Asian students and children by providing accommodation in hostels and other places; providing education in schools colleges universities and other places; and providing financial support and making grants towards to provision of accommodation and education and the necessities of life.</p> <p>Children of the Dump (registered as Asian Students Christian Trust) provides education, family support and loving care to deprived children</p>

living in extreme poverty on the Payatas and San Isidro rubbish dump communities in Manila. During 2019 - 2020 we had 212 children in our care; supported in different ways; some of whom have been neglected, abused or even abandoned. Since 1975 the supporters of Children of the Dump and our Filipino partner Asian Students Christian Foundation, have been giving young lives the chance to escape the cycle of poverty through education.

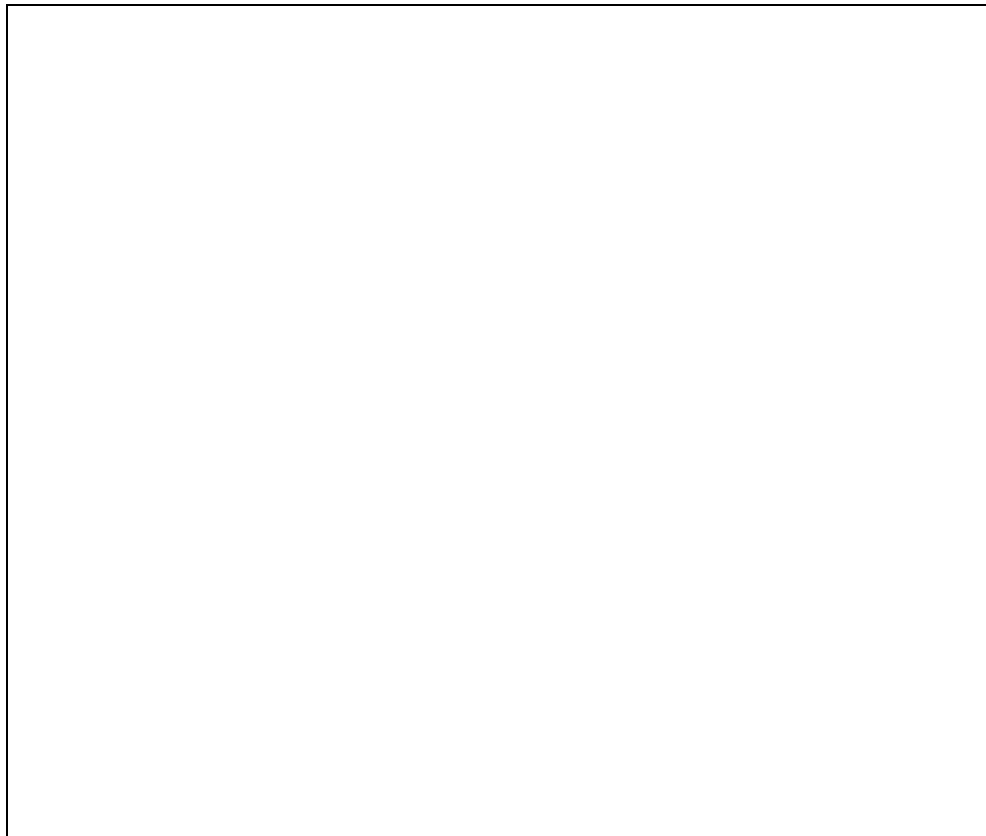
During 2019-2020, we operated a residential children's home (Mango Tree House) and a scholarship programme (Grapevine). Our early years school (Cashew Tree) which was in temporary accommodation during 2018-2019 has now been rebuilt and is now capable of taking 200 students.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.



Section D

Achievements and performance

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The key priority for the charity this year has been delivering the strategy to replace Cashew Tree School and managing the building of the new permanent school on the site of Mango Tree House. Being able to raise the necessary capital was a significant achievement for the charity and seeing the new building operating with 4 bright and colourful classrooms, capable of taking 200 students was hugely satisfying. The benefit to the local community is immeasurable. A child who attends Cashew Tree school is given a stepping stone to success in the crowded public school system, making them pupils in demand and more likely to remain in education as they proceed through their school years.

The building is capable of supporting a second storey for future use when necessary and subject to funds being available. The charity is incredibly grateful to all those that have helped to make this possible.

Although full capacity is 200 students, Trustees were cautious of income levels in the first year of operation and agreed to keep expenditure more manageable at 100 students who moved into their new classrooms in November 2019. This coincided with the UK Trustee visit who were delighted to see the new building in use.

Services in Manila continued to operate under the jurisdiction of local regulatory agencies and the board members of Asian Students Christian Foundation (ASCF). The local environment continues to change as the closure of Payatas dumpsite drives populations to move to San Isidro, the new scavenging site; where living conditions are atrocious.

Scavenger communities continue to reside in Payatas as the recycling businesses are well established in the vicinity. Fortunately, our facilities are conveniently situated equi-distant between Payatas and San Isidro and can serve both communities as well as the nearby resettlement town of Kasiglahan which houses people who have been evicted from their squatter shelters.

Mango Tree House has provided a loving residential home for over 40 children from four years of age. The increased national emphasis on re-integration with family has led to a significant policy change in operational practice for ASCF which has been jointly adopted with the UK. In 2019-2020, children's relatives were systematically reassessed to identify which students could be safely moved to a family environment. The charity will continue to support their education where necessary through the Grapevine scheme. In the year covered by this report, places vacated at Mango have been filled with new children who are in need of a safe and loving environment. In future years, it is envisaged that fewer children will be accommodated in Mango and more supported in the community through Grapevine.

Grapevine has supported 69 children to go to school while living with their family. This avoids the need for the children to work scavenging to assist the family income and provides them with optimal opportunities to complete their education. Children who succeed in education, will utilise their new earning power to support their siblings and family to also step up from poverty. One child's life transformed thus impacts on many others.

In the UK, the drive to improve value from every penny continues alongside the expansion of our communications with donors and supporters. Sponsors of children have regularly received communications from their sponsor child with anniversary cards and video messages. This year it has been extended to incorporate regular donors who do not sponsor a specific child. Social media coverage on Facebook and Instagram has increased thanks to the efforts of dedicated volunteers which has generated more followers and we hope will turn into supporters.

Fundraising has had to adapt to changing trends in giving. Child sponsorship remains a key tenant for our charity but we have placed

much greater emphasis on raising awareness and funds through social media, grants and national campaigns. Our biggest effort was focused on the Big Give Christmas Campaign where donations are doubled. This played a large part in being able to extend the numbers of students at Cashew Tree School.

Through the appointment of two new Trustees, the charity has expanded the skills and knowledge of the Board in the UK. One of the appointees was born and raised in Manila which brings an important dimension to discussions. The strengthening of the UK board is mirrored in ASCF with new active members also being appointed there.

The end of the year was of course blighted by COVID-19. Manila experienced the most draconian lock-down which for our community proved devastating. Emergency processes were implemented to keep families fed and appeals for special funds enabled this to happen. The implications of the pandemic continue to unfold and the charity will do its utmost to deliver its beneficiaries the best possible help and support.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Trustees believe it is essential to hold reserves to allow service changes in Manila to be implemented in a managed process should income levels fall substantially.

The target level of free reserves is calculated by Trustees each financial year based on the approved budget for the next year, the general economic climate, exchange rate and trends in charity giving. The normal baseline is £66,000. This year is higher, set at £70,000 due to budget uncertainties and exchange rate fluctuations.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F


Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Kay Mackay	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	

Date 21.08.20