

THE GOLD STANDARD CHARITABLE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



THE GOLD STANDARD CHARITABLE TRUST

"Changing a Child's Horizon"



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OVERVIEW

I am honoured once again to be able to thank you for such loyal and generous support for the GSCT.

With your help, our bursary programmes have provided an outstanding education for many girls and boys.

I am delighted that we have this year made our first award at Abbey DLD, and that we are now supporting two survivors of the Grenfell Tower tragedy with their education.

The last year has seen a steep rise in applications to the Trust, both from new and existing school families. The need for our work has never been more important than it is now.

What we have achieved this year would never have been possible without your generosity. Thank you in particular to our many supporters, new and old for providing these children with life changing, far-reaching opportunities.

Yours sincerely,

Sir John Ritblat
Chairman



78%
Average Level
of Bursary
Support*
*in year

20
Full
Bursaries

44
Bursarians

BURSARIES & AIMS

The Gold Standard
Charitable Trust is
dedicated to widening
access to outstanding
education

Each year we offer support to parents of gifted pupils whose circumstances would otherwise put an independent school education beyond their reach. We work closely with each of our partner schools in order to widen access, helping them to reach out to local families and supporting them through the process of identifying candidates.

We have established Bursary and Scholarship Funds for each of our partner schools, and work closely with school management teams to coordinate and manage appeals to their communities, whilst also soliciting unrestricted giving to the central GSCT fund.

These funds currently support students from preparatory level through to senior school. It is the intention of the Trustees to extend support into tertiary education, subject to suitable candidates being found.

The Charity also operates as an essential support mechanism for the children of

current parents. Support from the school communities, to raise funds for pupils whose parents fall into financial or other difficulty, allows us to provide much needed assistance to such pupils and to provide peace of mind at a time of difficulty.

All bursaries are means tested and are reviewed annually. Awards range from 10% to 100% fee remission. We want to identify untapped talent irrespective of parental means, to nurture potential and to develop character and attitude. In the process, we want to change lives for the better.

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Sara
Williams-Ryan,
Head of Falcons
School for Girls,
writes about their first
recipient of a Gold
Standard Charitable
Trust Award.

CASE STUDIES

*Name has been changed
for anonymity.



Alba*

Alba joined us in September as the first Falcons School for Girls pupil benefitting from a Gold Standard Charitable Trust Bursary Award and there is no question that she is a real asset to the school.

Alba has a cheerful disposition, a polite manner, boundless energy and is prepared to engage with everything the school has to offer. She loves her academic work and is an active participant in all lessons. She is also keen on Arts and Crafts and has a real passion for Music.

She is a particularly talented singer and delighted us all with her solo at the Christmas Carol concert. It is a real pleasure to have seen her talents grow in

her short time with us and I look forward to further contributions in a range of areas.

"Our daughter has always had an intense curiosity and eagerness to learn about the world around her. She is thriving in the environment provided by Falcons School For Girls where the extra attention to her education, by the marvellous GSCT bursary, is helping her to unlock her full potential."

Academically she grows in confidence every day and, equally importantly, her resilience, and her caring, respectful and effervescent nature continue to be nurtured."

Alba's parents





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CASE STUDY

Bana*

In our Assessment Day in 2019, Bana came very highly out of 152 boys, performing admirably in both English and Maths. He came across as a studious and kind boy and engaged well with the other boys, even though he was the only boy applying from his state school in Woking. When offered a place, his parents applied for a bursary, stating that it was their dream to have Bana educated at a top school like Wetherby and for his obvious academic talents to be recognised and encouraged.

Bana was awarded a full bursary and travels in everyday, independently, from his home in Woking. He came 1st out of 84 boys in the Autumn Assessments, participates fully in the extra-curricular life of the school, and is a credit to Wetherby Prep.

Nick Baker,
Headmaster at
Wetherby Prep
School, writes
about Bana, a
new recipient of
a Gold Standard
Charitable Trust
Bursary Award.



"Only because of the Wetherby Bursary Fund has our son, Bana, been able to enjoy this extraordinary experience at Wetherby. He began his time at Wetherby as a shy and quiet boy, and in a short period of time has changed his demeanour becoming much more confident, and surprised us by winning the Form Prize which would never have been possible without the school's academic and pastoral support. We are incredibly grateful to all the trustees for their continued support."

Bana's parents



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David Bradbury,
Headmaster of
Portland Place
School, writes
about Cara, who
has been awarded
a Gold Standard
Charitable Trust
Bursary Award.

CASE STUDY



Cara*

12 Cara joined Portland Place School in Year 10, at short notice and under difficult circumstances when her previous school was not granted a license to teach GCSEs. Cara very quickly settled in and showed herself to be an able, polite, confident, articulate and committed student. Her teacher assessment grades for submission this summer will likely all be in the high-grade range.

She has become a popular member of the year group who shares excellent relationships with her peers and staff. She is passionate about Art and is a regular at our Art Club where she also helps younger students. Cara is always willing to support school events and has represented the school in the netball team.

David Bradbury
Headmaster



“

She is a delightful student.
Miss Osborne,
Art teacher

Cara has an excellent attitude to learning. This is evident through her hard work in class, her enthusiasm for learning new concepts, her willingness to ask questions and her participation in class discussions.
Mr Ruddy,
Mathematics teacher

Cara is an excellent student. She is highly organised, ambitious and committed to attaining the best possible mark.
Ms O'Leary,
Geography teacher



Irfan Latif,
Principal at DLD
College, writes
about Dora, who
has been awarded
a Gold Standard
Charitable
Bursary Award

DLD CASE STUDY



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Dora*

Dora joined DLD College London in September 2019 having previously attended Kingsdale Foundation School where she was a triple scholar. She is a well-rounded student who is studying for four A Levels in Film Studies, Graphics, Mathematics and Physics. In addition to having a strong affinity and interest in Mathematics, she is a thoughtful artist and has passion for interior design. Since joining the College, she has gone from strength to strength; benefitting from the unique learning opportunities at DLD. Her teachers are very pleased with her overall progress and have high hopes for her. In particular, Dora's ability to reflect deeply on her work has been commended

throughout the academic year.

Outside of the classroom Dora has been involved with a Steel Drum band and has a Grade 6 award for flute, allowing her to be part of an orchestra. She is one of the first names on the netball team sheet

Irfan Latif
Principal

Dora is a highly capable and organised student with an excellent record of attendance and punctuality. Her positive work ethics are resulting in good progress in all her subjects. Her contextual research and written work

is clear and concise and is produced to a good standard. She has confidence in her achievements and is always ready and eager to learn more.

Dora is a dedicated and determined member of the DLD netball team. She is determined to always perform at her best to support the team members.

Danise B. Grant
Director of Studies

Bursary awards for victims of the Grenfell Tower Disaster

Two survivors of the Grenfell Tower Disaster have been supported by the Trust. Following the disaster, a free place at Wetherby School was offered to a child who lost a brother in the incident.

In addition, another survivor of the incident was granted a 3 year full award at Portland Place School.

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ENGAGEMENT

Pembridge Hall Celebrates 40 Years

This year, Pembridge Hall School celebrated their 40th anniversary which was marked by a reception and charity auction, held in Notting Hill.

More than 160 parents and alumni were joined by former and current staff for the occasion. Guests enjoyed a champagne reception, live entertainment and delicious finger food.

Alumni in particular enjoyed reminiscing over memories of their time at the school with former staff, whose number included two former Headmistresses. The Headmaster, Henry Keighley-Elstub, gave a speech reflecting on both the school's 40 year history as well as his vision for the future.



Falcons Prep School for Boys 10th Anniversary Alumni Reunion

Falcons Preparatory School for Boys has celebrated its 10 Year Anniversary, hosting an event at the school to launch the Falcons Prep Alumni Club. The Richmond-based school welcomed over 70 guests including past pupils, parents and staff members, to mark the occasion.

Headmistress, Miss Olivia Buchanan, commented: "The school's 10-year anniversary presented a prime opportunity to host our inaugural alumni event and launch the Falcons Prep Alumni Club.

We are an ambitious school with a strong set of values focused on providing every boy with the opportunity to reach their full potential, and it was inspiring to hear stories of what our previous pupils have achieved."

"Many of our past students and parents still live locally in the Richmond, Chiswick, Barnes and Ealing area, enabling us to continue celebrating their successes and supporting our whole school community closely through our alumni club."



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125 Years of St. Anthony's

An anniversary dinner held in June marking the 125th anniversary of St. Anthony's School for Boys was attended by 45 alumni and former staff. This was a great occasion to solidify the alumni and generated a great deal of good will.

Headmaster Paul Keyte said "The affection Old Antonians have for the school is deeply moving and also rightly humbling. We realise, at these events, that we are guardians of a very special school, with a very special tradition."

Series of School History Talks

Nigel Watson, the author of the book commissioned by the Trust, *The Story of St. Anthony's*, gave a series of talks on the history of the school, to current and former parents, alumni and current students. This was also an opportunity to sell a number of copies of the book which were much sought after.

All proceeds support the school's bursary fund.



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The History of Wetherby - 90 Years On

The Story of St. Anthony's, which came on sale in 2018 to mark the school's 125th anniversary, continues to be a great success both in reengaging alumni with their former school, and as a marketing tool for current and prospective parents.

On the heels of this success, a history of the Wetherby Schools is underway, with proceeds from sales to go to support bursaries. Interviews with former and current pupils and staff, from across the Wetherby Schools, took place in the

summer and autumn terms. Alumni and former staff are helping to build school archives of visual materials to include in the book.

The book will be published in 2021, to coincide with the Wetherby School 90th Anniversary.



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Alumni Reunions

Informal alumni reunions are proving an effective method of engaging alumni. Schools and Colleges continue to invite alumni to regular events. Notably, Carol Services and Remembrance Services.

During the last two weeks of March a series of alumni reunions for Old Antonians were held at St. Anthony's School for Boys.

These inaugural events for the St. Anthony's School Association included

representation from each decade from the 1940s through to the 1990s. Many alumni brought memorabilia to donate to the school archives as well as memories and stories to share with their former classmates. The school was thrilled with the turnout.

John Withers Retires

The occasion of John Withers' departure from Hilden Grange - after 34 years of outstanding service at the school, including 29 years as Headmaster - was used to engage with and sign up scores of alumni to the new Hilden Grange alumni website.

It was really wonderful to see everyone reminisce about their school days, explore upon the changes to the school and catch up with old friends.

Alumni Speakers

Alumni and parents are encouraged to support their college in many ways, including to speak and advise current students.

Pictured here is a recent Abbey College Cambridge graduate who is currently reading Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge.



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FUNDRAISING

Appeals continue to be well supported across our established partner schools. This year saw anniversary appeals run in two of these schools, as well as fresh fundraising programmes established in three new schools.

The GSCT's new website is proving a popular route for both donors and applicants to keep in touch with the Trust.

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Springboard Foundation

The GSCT has started working with the Royal National Children's Springboard Foundation, a charity that ordinarily identifies bursary candidates to match to partnered boarding schools. In our case, Springboard is working with the GSCT to help the Trust identify candidates for whom a boarding school environment is considered unsuitable, or where a day school is preferred by the applicant family.

We will look to provide places within the Alpha Plus Group for these bursary candidates.



Conscious Celebrations – Kindergifts

Towards the end of this year, the GSCT formed a partnership with Kindergifts; an invitation platform that enables children to share their celebrations with a charity of their choice. It is a new way for parents to support the school community via GSCT Bursary Funds, whilst reducing gift waste and teaching children about charitable giving.



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The Gold Standard Charitable Foundation (US)

A sister charity, The Gold Standard Charitable Foundation is being formed in New York, to provide financial aid to worthy students. It will operate in much the same way as the GSCT, with all candidates undergoing rigorous means testing. Initially the charity will be working with Wetherby Pembrige New York. The charity will be launched in the autumn 2020.



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goldstandardcharitabletrust.co.uk



Pembridge Hall School Anniversary Giving

An Anniversary Fund was established at Pembridge Hall, marking the 40th anniversary of the school.

Fundraising has been underway for this fund throughout the year, culminating in the 40th anniversary auction held in November. Support was shown through gifts donated for the auction, pledges made on the night and by those lucky enough to place winning bids on auction items. The school hit its target of £40,000.

The Gold Standard Charitable Trust has created sub funds for each participating school, which enable donors to donate to a specific school and allows allocations for a particular educational activity – for instance music and the arts.



SUBFUNDS

The long-term aim of the charity is to create a sub fund for all of the schools and colleges within the Alpha Plus Group.





LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Charitable Status Registered in England and Wales

Charity Number 1130999

Registered Office 24 Queen Anne Street
London
W1G 9AX

Company number 06818920

Founder member Sir John Ritblat Chairman

Trustees Sir John Ritblat Chairman
Colin Wagman FCA
Howard Goldsobel
Julietta Gishen
Graham Able
Dr Martin Stephen
Dr Priscilla Chadwick

Director Tom Robertson

Philanthropy Lead Sarah Wyn Jones

Independent Examiner David Edwards ACA
Lewis Golden LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
40 Queen Anne Street
London W1G 9EL

TRUSTEES

Sir John Ritblat Chairman

Sir John Ritblat Hon DSc, is the Honorary President of The British Land Company PLC, Chairman of Delancey's Real Estate Advisory Board, and Chairman of the Alpha Plus Group.

In 2019, The Sir John Ritblat Family Foundation enabled the creation of The Sir John Ritblat Chair at Oxford University for a Professorship in Mindfulness and Psychological Science.

He stood down as Chairman of the Board of Governors of London Business School in April 2014 after 23 years on the Board and 10 years as Chairman. He remains on the Estates Committee, as a Member of Distinguished Friends and is an Hon Fellow.

He was previously Chairman of the Wallace Collection and a Trustee for 10 years and remains Chairman of The Foundation.

He is an Hon Fellow and Hon Trustee, and was Deputy Chairman of the Royal Academy of Music.

Sir John is Hon President and Member of The British Library Fundraising Advisory Group and President of the British Library's Living Education fundraising campaign. He previously served as a Board Member from 1995-2003, and then served again from 2015-2019 during the period of its move from The British Museum to its new home in Euston Road. He endowed "The Sir John Ritblat Gallery, Treasures of The British Library".

He is the President of British Ski & Snowboard National Foundation. In his different guises he has been the principal sponsor of The British National Alpine Ski Championships for the last 42 years and is the longest serving Sponsor in British Sport. He also helped to establish the governing body for all British snow sport athletes which is now known as GB Snow Sport Federation.

He is Vice President of the Real Tennis & Racquets Association

Colin Wagman FCA

For over 30 years, Colin Wagman has been extensively involved in the UK property industry. As former Deputy Chairman of Delancey and its CFO he was responsible for their treasury and finance functions as well as their corporate and taxation policies.

Colin holds several non-executive directorships and is Chairman of The City of London Group Plc, as well as being a trustee of several charities and was a founding trustee of The Silver Line Helpline.

He was also closely associated with the property and finance industries throughout his 28 years in public practice as a Chartered Accountant and was a Senior Partner in the firm Casson Beckman in London until he retired from practice in 1991.

Colin is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, having been admitted as an Associate in 1970.

Howard Goldsobel

Howard Goldsobel is a partner in a West End firm of solicitors specialising in company and commercial work. Howard has a lifelong interest in educational affairs and was a Lay Inspector of Schools from 1993 to 2001.

A keen reader, a tennis player and skier, Howard holds an MBA and was from 2008 until 2019 a foundation Governor and Chair of Resources at a VA faith school.

Julietta Gishen

Following a brand management career at the BBC, Julietta took over the administration of the Charity in 2012. After becoming a mother to four children and entering three in private schools across London, she was appointed as a Trustee.

Over the last six years, she has built solid relationships with the Heads and has helped to facilitate the allocation of bursaries and hardship funding to students across the GSCT schools.

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TRUSTEES

Graham Able

Graham Able is currently Deputy Chairman for the Alpha Plus Group having stepped down from his role of CEO from October 2009 – June 2014. Graham took over as CEO of the Alpha Plus Group two months after he retired as Master of Dulwich College in 2009 and after 40 years in independent schools, the last 21 of which was spent in Headships.

Prior to his nearly 13 year tenure at Dulwich College, Graham was Head of Hampton School. He has been closely involved in the independent sector in London for over 25 years.

Graham is a former chairman of HMC which represents the Heads of over 250 of the leading independent schools in the United Kingdom. He also chaired the HMC/ Girls' Schools Association (GSA) joint academic policy committee and was President of the International Boys School Coalition for three years until July 2009 (the first non-American to hold this post).

During his Mastership at Dulwich, Graham was responsible for the development of the Dulwich schools in China and remains Senior Vice-President of Dulwich College Management International. Most recently, he has co-founded the lobbying group, Exporting Education (UK), which he chaired up until 18 months ago.

Dr Martin Stephen

Dr Martin Stephen was educated at Uppingham School in Rutland followed by the University of Leeds and then the University of Sheffield where he obtained a PHD. He was Headmaster of The Perse School, Cambridge (1987–1994), High Master of Manchester Grammar (1994–2004) and then High Master of St Paul's School (2004 –2011). He was Chairman of The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference in 2004.

Martin has a long history of charitable fundraising, raising £10 million for bursaries at Manchester Grammar and £30 million for redevelopment at St Paul's School.

Martin is a prolific author of several academic titles on English Literature and five Henry Gresham crime novels set in London and Cambridge. Following a stroke in 2005 he wrote about his experiences in a work titled 'Diary of a Stroke'. Martin is a founding governor of The London Academy of Excellence.

Dr Priscilla Chadwick

Having been Head of Religious Education and Principal in both state comprehensive and independent schools, as well as Dean of Educational Development at South Bank University, Dr Chadwick was the first woman elected as Chairman of The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC).

She is a governor of a number of independent schools and academies. She chaired the National Dioceses Commission for the Archbishop of Canterbury, presented 'Thought for the Day' for BBC Radio 4, led a major review of Church schools for the Church of England and published two well-reviewed books on education.

Her interests include music, the arts and world travel.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Statement of Financial Activities

(Including an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 December 2019.

	£	£
INCOME RESOURCES		
Donations	556,659	
Purchased goods	2,355	
Gift aid receivable	1,810	
Income from investments	21,410	
Interest received	2,332	
Total incoming resources		584,566
	£	£
RESOURCES EXPENDITURE		
Current Year	(226,063)	
Future Periods	(521,118)	
Grant Funding		(747,181)
Fundraising costs	(9,013)	
Support costs	(74,986)	
Total resources expended		(831,180)
Investment loss		(25,915)
NET EXPENDITURE		(220,699)

Balance Sheet

For the year ended 31 December 2019.

	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Investments		373,481
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	220,303	
Cash at bank	117,915	
		338,218
TOTAL ASSETS		711,699
CREDITORS: due within one year		515,367
due after one year		29,034
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		196,332
TOTAL NET ASSETS		167,298
Restricted funds		12,025
Designated funds		98,237
Unrestricted funds		57,036
TOTAL FUNDS		167,298





24 Queen Anne Street, London, W1G 9AX

E. info@goldstandardcharitabletrust.co.uk

W. goldstandardcharitabletrust.co.uk

T. +44 (0) 20 7487 1288



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