

NGOKO CHARITABLE TRUST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024



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01

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2024 was a milestone year for Lesedi. The core secondary school construction was completed with the opening of our incredible science block. From January 2025, the schools now teach, feed and nurture almost 500 children from pre-school to the end of secondary. Great progress was made on agricultural projects and strengthening local governance and partnerships. Financial donations hit our highest ever level and the charity has now raised over \$3.2m for good causes in Zimbabwe.

The Lesedi journey continued:

- The Schools had 469 children enrolled at 31 December 2024.
- Special needs teaching continued to be offered for 18 primary kids.
- Our Grade 7 exam pass rate was 82% (vs 62% in 2023).
- The core infrastructure and staffing are now in place across a \$1.5m campus and with 50 staff and volunteers.
- The Secondary School achieved formal registration with the Ministry of Education in May 2024.
- Significant investment was made in our agricultural projects and other vocational subjects.
- The sponsorship program grew substantially. At December 2024, 449 kids were sponsored (+69 on Dec 23)
- We provided over 175,000 free school meals during 2024.
- A successful Famine Appeal raised \$22,000 and ensured that our students and vulnerable members of the local community continued to eat during the prolonged drought.
- Our local governance and controls were significantly improved with the appointment of two local admin staff.
- Partnership working started in earnest.
- The clinic continued to grow its presence despite challenges with pharmacy rule changes.

Financially we had a positive year generating a net surplus of £63k.

The short-term focus is on our first ZIMSEC Ordinary Level examinations in late 2025, and improving all Lesedi does – teaching, governance, partnerships.

Further investment is now required especially in vocational equipment.

None of this would have been possible without our amazing team at Lesedi, and the incredible generosity from our donors and supporters. A huge and heartfelt "Thank You!" to everyone on this journey with us.

The focus for the Trust remains supporting Lesedi but other projects in Zimbabwe could be pursued in the future.

02 WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Ngoko Charitable Trust is run by three committed volunteers, who are striving to reduce poverty in rural Zimbabwe through provision of quality education and healthcare. The Trust's main project is supporting Lesedi Schools & Clinic, situated in a rural area near Victoria Falls. Lesedi Primary and Secondary Schools are educating almost 500 local children, most of whom are supported through our sponsorship programme. Lesedi Clinic provides affordable, accessible healthcare to the surrounding communities. Other projects in Zimbabwe could be supported in the future.

About Us

The trustees of the Ngoko Charitable Trust are Fiona & Graeme Thompson and Benson Siyawareva. Fiona and Graeme are based in the United Kingdom and Benson lives in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The three of them met on safari 20 years ago and have remained firm friends ever since. Benson and Fiona founded a safari company, Ngoko Safaris, together in 2005.

Benson grew up in rural Zimbabwe and knows first-hand how challenging it can be for children in rural communities to break out of poverty. In 2013 he became involved with the Ntabayengwe community, who live in a rural area near Victoria Falls. He realised that many children were dropping out of school and decided he needed to help.

Our Charitable Objective

The purpose of the Ngoko Charitable Trust is the prevention or relief of poverty in Zimbabwe by providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, healthcare projects and all the necessary support designed to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

Fiona and Graeme had always talked about "making a difference" so the three of them teamed up to transform Benson's dream into a reality.

As we commenced our journey, none of us could have envisaged the incredible support we would receive along the way, enabling us to transform our dreams into reality. The Ngoko Charitable Trust was registered in 2015 to support our work.

What started as a small project in our spare time, has grown to take over our lives. Despite this, our passion to make a difference is stronger than ever and we are constantly inspired to do more to help those who through chance of birth need a helping hand to break out of the cycle of poverty and achieve their potential.



Fiona, Benson and Graeme

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WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Lesedi Schools and Clinic is governed by the Ngoko Trust, a private Trust set up in Zimbabwe of which Benson is a Trustee. A Finance and Operations Manager is employed locally to oversee the financials, human resources and other operational matters in Zimbabwe. Further improvements in local governance and controls will be continued to be made.

Lesedi Project Background

The Ntabayengwe community, and other neighbouring communities, live in scattered homesteads just 15-20 minutes' drive from Victoria Falls. Despite being relatively close to town, the daily existence could be from another world. Most families survive by cattle raising and subsistence farming on the infertile Kalahari Sand soils. Human-wildlife conflict is rife as the area is adjacent to the Zambezi National Park and Jafuta Forest, so cattle are often taken by lions.

The people in this area are often poorly educated with low aspiration levels and limited role models. Prior to Lesedi, the nearest local school was many kilometres

away. Children were often absent or dropped out of school altogether. Many parents, unable to pay school fees, preferred their children to remain at home to help with household chores. Alcohol dependence was an issue, with some households engaged in the illegal moonshine business. Many families are dealing with ill health, including HIV and AIDS.

The cycle of poverty in these communities has persisted for generations and there was little hope for improvement without outside intervention.

Lesedi Primary School

The Lesedi project started with construction of a simple shack to offer classes to pre-school children, with the initial intake of kids, our "pioneer" students, enrolling in 2014.

Thanks to the generosity of our ever-expanding Lesedi family, development has continued year on year, and Lesedi Primary School now offers a complete infant and junior education. Infant education consists of four years of schooling from Early



02 WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Childhood Development (ECD) A to Grade 2. Junior education comprises five years from Grade 3 to Grade 7.

At the time of writing 262 children are enrolled at Lesedi Primary – 135 boys and 127 girls.

Lesedi Primary has 12 teachers, including a Special Needs teacher and a non-teaching Head. All salaries are funded by donations through the Trust.

Seventeen individuals from the local community also support Lesedi as a clerk, cooks, groundsmen, security guards and helpers across all three sites.

The school is equipped with laptops, and we have a dedicated teacher for Information & Communication Technology (ICT), enabling the children to become digitally literate from a young age.

Lesedi is connected to mains electricity, and the water is supplied by boreholes. The school also has internet. These are considerable achievements considering the school's rural location.

Lesedi Secondary School

Given the lack of high-quality Secondary education in the area, the decision was taken in 2020 to build a Secondary school on the Lesedi site.

The Trustees were keen that the school offered vocational and IT subjects, which is rare to find in rural schools in Zimbabwe.

During 2021, major construction works took place and in early 2022 67 students were enrolled in Form 1 with an even split from Lesedi Primary and other local schools.

The school offers a wide range of subjects. All students at Forms 1 and 2 study core subjects of Mathematics, English, Combined Science, Ndebele, Geography, Heritage and Computer Sciences. Then they also study either Accounts or Commerce, plus one vocational subject from Agriculture or Food / Metal / Wood Technology and Design.

For Forms 3 and 4, Chemistry and Biology are added to the subjects, and learners choose which Ordinary Level subjects to be examinable at the end of Form 4.



Lesedi Secondary School

02 WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

One new teacher was appointed in January 2025 with the Secondary now at full complement of 15 teachers, including a non-teaching Head.

The Secondary school was initially formally annexed to Mosi-oa-Tunya Secondary school (the main 1,600+ pupil school in Victoria Falls town) for registration purposes but Lesedi Secondary achieved its own standalone registration in May 2024.

Our pioneer students moved up to Form 4 in January 2025 and at the time of writing 230 children are enrolled at Lesedi Secondary - 126 boys and 104 girls.

Lesedi Clinic

Having started the project at Lesedi, we soon realized that healthcare was a major problem. The nearest public clinic was far from Lesedi, with transport costs unaffordable for most. Health issues were often ignored, or a traditional healer visited instead.

Building a clinic at Lesedi – along with various ancillary buildings – was a hugely

ambitious project but despite the challenges, Lesedi Clinic opened to the community in March 2020.

Lesedi Clinic provides local, affordable healthcare, antenatal care and vaccinations. The clinic and school work closely together to monitor the welfare of our learners and provide ongoing treatment as necessary.

Along with the clinic, we have also built a maternity waiting-home for expecting mothers to stay during the final weeks of pregnancy.

We employ two nurses at the clinic and have two nurse-aide helpers and support staff. We also fund a doctor for weekly clinics. All costs are funded by donations to the Trust.

Other projects

Given our charitable objectives, the Trust can support projects outside of Lesedi. We have previously provided some capital funds to help improve a clinic near Jerera, Zaka District in south-eastern Zimbabwe.



Lesedi Clinic

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

After eleven years of constant building, Lesedi Schools construction was completed with the opening of our amazing Science block. From January 2025 we have our full complement of 27 teachers plus 17 support volunteers educating almost 500 students from pre-school to Form 4 Secondary. A major achievement in fundraising, constant construction (thanks Benson!) and incredible support from our wonderful donors. The drought had a major impact on local communities during the year, but our successful Famine Appeal enabled the Trust to provide additional meals to the Lesedi students and vulnerable local people.

Background

Zimbabwe economically remains in a difficult place. GDP per head is 20% of the global average.

The Government introduced a new currency in April 2024 (the "ZiG") but within 6 months it had already lost 75% of its value.

Inflation remains high (15%+ in USD terms pa) due to global pressures and the impact of the 2023-24 drought.

One ray of good news is that the rains returned at the end of 2024 which will ease some of the pressure on local families.

This pressure often results in parents moving in search of work, or kids being sent to live with relatives. Over 50 learners left Lesedi at the end of 2024, partly due to this pressure but also due to the introduction of nominal school fees as Lesedi aims to become more financially self-sustainable.

Drought

With the failure of the rains in early 2024, a major drought was declared across most areas of Southern Africa. Lesedi communities mostly rely on working the land to survive. Some families resorted to selling possessions or getting into debt to buy food.

The Trust launched a famine appeal in June 2024, and our amazing donors raised \$22,000. 18 tonnes of maize and beans were

purchased, along with a maize milling machine so that we could avoid buying expensive food from the market. Breakfast porridge was added for the secondary learners, who previously only had lunch.

By late 2024 the major concern was running out of water at the school, with most of the boreholes in the local area running dry. Fortunately, we had just enough water to last to early December when the school holidays began. Our investment in boreholes and water tanks paid huge dividends.

The rains were late in 2024 so farmers who planted early lost their crops again but from January 2025 the rains started properly. This should hopefully relieve some of the pressure on local families and start to replenish the water table.

The last eighteen months have reminded us how vital our feeding program is. We are one of few schools who provide free meals



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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

for our children – a staggering 175,000 meals were provided by Lesedi in 2024. This food relieves pressure on local families as their children are getting two good meals a day at school.

The cost of providing all these meals in 2024 was \$50k, which works out at a very economical 30 cents per meal – but it is a growing and significant financial burden on the charity.

Lesedi Primary School

The Primary school **Grade 7 exam results** were positive with an 82% overall pass rate for Lesedi learners (vs 62% in 2023).

Mrs Mutori and her team have been working hard to raise standards and have introduced afternoon remedial lessons for some of the learners. There have also been several staff changes and a new teacher training program with TeachUNITED commenced in January 2025.

A major positive in the year was that one of our new teachers, Mr Chirandata, started several agriculture projects at the primary school, with a 900-chicken broiler shed and an irrigated vegetable garden. The produce is now being used for school meals.

Extracurricular activities remain extremely popular with all the children. The choir, chess



and sports teams did well in intra-school competitions.

Lesedi Secondary School

Construction was completed on a **science teaching block** (Chemistry and Biology labs, plus prep area) following a very generous \$200,000 single donation. The first lesson was held within 6 months of the donation being made which was a great testament to Benson and his building crew.



The Secondary school now has all the core infrastructure to teach Form 1 to Form 4 across a broad curriculum.

Significant investment in **equipment** continued to be made with \$50k invested in more books, better Wi-Fi, computers and furniture. The vocational buildings however remain very lightly equipped, so the charity launched a Vocational Fundraising appeal in December 2024.

One of the main positives in 2024, was the appointment of a **new Secondary leadership team** led by the highly energetic new Head, Lucy Chimbani. Ms Chimbani launched key improvements such as afternoon remedial lessons for the learners.

In May 2024 after reviews and inspections, Lesedi Secondary School received official **school registration** from the Ministry of

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Education, thereby ceasing to be an annex of the Vic Falls high school Mosi-oa-Tunya.

The **agricultural projects** continued to develop with 1,000 chicken layers providing eggs for feeding and selling, 100 pigs being reared for meat, and 9 goats received in lieu of school fees. Stronger shade netting was installed over the vegetable garden.

The combination of the agriculture projects along with high quality vocational and IT facilities means that the Lesedi students have the opportunity to learn really useful practical skills. This is unique for a rural school in Zimbabwe.

Fourteen secondary teachers were employed in 2024 with one more teacher joining in January 2025 as we started Form 4. This should now be a full complement.

The Secondary learners are flourishing with the extracurricular activities on offer at Lesedi – the football and netball teams did incredibly well in school competitions and there are many clubs such as drama, choir, chess, ecology and music. The marimba band (the “Mallet Masters”) were busy and performed at the World Children’s Day celebrations in Vic Falls in front of thousands of children and leaders from across Southern Africa.



There is still a lot to do at Secondary, but great positive strides were taken in 2024 to establish a high-quality teaching institution.

Lesedi Clinic

Patient numbers continued to increase, providing health and welfare support to the Lesedi children and the local communities, as well as delivering on public health initiatives.

The clinic offers a full vaccination programme at Lesedi. The Zimbabwe Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) aims to reduce vaccine preventable diseases. Targeted mostly at the under-5s, vaccines protect from Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Meningitis, Polio, Pneumonia etc. The clinic is also giving the HPV vaccine to girls aged between 10-14 years for prevention of cervical cancer.

The dedicated polio vaccination campaign continued in 2024 following an outbreak of the disease in Harare.

In addition to serving the wider community, Lesedi Clinic provides a vital health resource for our Lesedi learners.

Learners with long term health conditions, such as diabetes, cerebral palsy, epilepsy and sickle cell anaemia are all under the care of the clinic.

In December 2024, the Eyepod Clinic in Victoria Falls provided further free eye screening checks with many of the Lesedi learners and staff, with a number receiving follow up treatment / spectacles, all funded via the Trust.

The rules governing medicine dispensations changed in 2024, such that private clinics like Lesedi can no longer stock and issue medicines. This significantly limits what services the Clinic can offer. We hosted the

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

District Medical Officer at the Clinic in late 2024 and work is ongoing to find a solution to this issue.

Partnerships

Following the completion of the main construction of Lesedi in 2024, we are now looking to the future to ensure Lesedi becomes financially self-sustainable into the longer term.

Lesedi needs partners to help it reach its full potential. The Trustees stepped up efforts to build relationships with local partners. One example is with [Jafuta Foundation](#) which does amazing community work close to Lesedi. Collaboration work has started on educational and agriculture projects, and their counsellor has started to offer mental health support out of Lesedi Clinic.

Governance

The responsible authority for both schools and the clinic is the Ngoko Trust, which is a Zimbabwe registered Trust.

Significant efforts during the year were focussed on improving the governance and controls of the Ngoko Trust, along with the administration function at the schools and clinic.

A Finance and Operations Manager and a Finance Assistant were appointed during 2024 to ensure that strong finance, HR and admin controls were in place.

Financial self-sustainability

The Lesedi project needs to be financially sustainable into the longer term.

The annual cost of educating, feeding and caring for a Lesedi child is \$750 per child. A

large proportion this cost relates to salaries, with \$140 per child being food costs. This compares to the US average public primary/secondary education cost of \$15,000 per child per year.

To fund this, the sponsorship program is key and at the time of writing, 470 of the 492 children enrolled at Lesedi Primary and Secondary Schools are sponsored at \$360 per child per year.

The number of sponsorships increased by 69 during 2024 which was pleasing given limited tourist groups visit the school.

Without sponsorship, it is likely that many of our learners would not be regularly attending school and certainly wouldn't have expectations to continue past their primary education. Our school meals are crucial to the welfare of many children, and for some the access to healthcare is proving to be a lifeline.

However, sponsorship income does not cover all the Lesedi operating costs.

Given the big difference between the sponsorship rate and the actual cost per child for education, food and welfare the School Development Councils (SDCs) and parents at both schools agreed to set tuition fees at \$48/term for primary (plus a \$12/term SDC) and \$80/term for secondary (plus a \$65/term SDC fee).

It is recognised that not all families will be able to pay all fees so a social register has been set up to ensure that those families who genuinely cannot afford to pay will be offered partial or full fee exemptions.

The agriculture projects should also start to contribute net income to Lesedi in the near future.

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FUTURE PLANS

We will reach a defining milestone in late 2025 when our pioneer students will sit their Ordinary Level examinations and move to a life beyond Lesedi Secondary. We are still considering what help we can offer post-secondary, very mindful of not overstretching ourselves even further. Our vocational facilities and science facilities are major strengths and anything we do in the future is likely to be focussed on these as the core.

The Primary School's focus will be on continuing to fine tune and improve standards. The Clinic will be focussed on solving the current operational restrictions and ensuring that it is working at its full potential, possibly in partnership with others.

Partnership is one of our key focuses in 2025, building on some of the key relationships established in 2024 such as with Jafuta. We also want to continue the push on improving local governance and self-sustainability, aiming for a long-term position where Lesedi can be Zimbabwe led, with the UK charity focusing on fundraising.

Lesedi Primary School

The Primary School is now operationally complete, with our final year – Grade 7 – completed in 2021. We have a full complement of excellent teachers including the special needs support and volunteers working in quality facilities.

We need to ensure that we can deliver high Grade 7 exam results year on year and ensure we get the value from the TeachUNITED training.

Lesedi Secondary School

Main construction is now completed including the incredible Science block completed in June 2024. Further construction will be required funds permitting but on a as needs basis – this is starting with an expansion on the Food Tech building.

Further equipment will also be needed with key vocational equipment being funded from the December 2024 Vocational Fundraising campaign.

2025 will initially be focussed on meeting all the Ministry and ZIMSEC requirements to allow us to become an exam centre.

The focus then will be on the first Form 4 exams and improving grades. The lockdown, the teething pains of a brand-new school and teacher changes have been disruptive on our older students and therefore we will help as much as possible with remedial teaching and support.

There has been a huge amount of teacher churn over the past 3 years as we have had to juggle subjects across initially just two classes, progressing to the current eight classes. A key priority in 2025 is stability and developing the team in conjunction with the TeachUNITED training.

Lesedi Clinic

The focus for the clinic is continuing to offer quality healthcare despite the loss of the local pharmacy capabilities. We will continue discussions with partners to work out how we can get the best use out of the amazing infrastructure and team in place at the Clinic.

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FUTURE PLANS

Partnerships

Following the great connections made in 2024, for Lesedi to reach its full potential it needs to work more with others.

The great work done by Jafuta Foundation is very complementary to what we are doing at Lesedi, so collaborative projects would ensure that the benefits of Lesedi are felt way beyond the school gates. We hope to share more details in future reports.

Governance / Administration

We need to build on the additional governance and two staff recruited in 2024, so that the Ngoko Trust has its own resources to lead more from Zimbabwe. This will bring additional cost, but local admin is needed to ensure the schools and clinic are well managed.

We need to work with the Ngoko Trust to strengthen the leadership locally by expanding the Ngoko Trust Board and increasing the skills/connections available locally to drive improvements.

This will also manage one of the key UK risks around succession planning beyond its three founders. There isn't a quick solution, but by carefully pushing more work and accountability to Zimbabwe this will start to reduce this risk.

We still have no administration costs in the UK from the running of the charity as we want to maximise the end \$ donation on the ground. Any UK admin costs and travel / other costs from trips to Lesedi by the trustees are all personally paid for.

Fundraising / self sufficiency

Over \$3.2 million has now been raised by the Trust which is a proud achievement and 2024 was our best year ever. The challenge going forwards is continuing to receive

donations at that level - if not higher - which will be a challenge given we don't have many new tourist groups going through the school.

Our long-term aim is for Lesedi to be self-sufficient financially beyond the UK. This is a challenge as the annual cost of educating and feeding is now \$750+/child.

The sponsorship program is essential. As well as providing the friendships and connections, it is the financial life blood for the schools covering over half the running costs (salaries, food, electricity, internet, transport etc).

We need to find 20 more sponsors for the new 2025 intake and then we should finally have reached full capacity at 500 sponsors. We hope that sponsors will be happy to switch their Form 4 child to a younger child.

The sponsorship program is a huge undertaking, and we are so thankful to our amazing supporters who have taken on more sponsorships and spread the word.

Sponsorship will never be enough, so from January 2025 the two schools are now asking parents to formally pay nominal school fees.

It is a challenge getting money from parents for fees, but it is important for the long-term financial sustainability for the school as well as the parents making an active contribution to their child's development and growth. We also have a social register so that parents / guardians who genuinely can't pay fees can get fees subsidised or waived.

Medium term we hope to move the sponsorship program to be mainly run out of Zimbabwe. With this sponsorship income plus the school fees, total income is closer to

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covering all the costs, but further work needs to be done to deliver on income generating projects to make Lesedi financially stable into the long term.

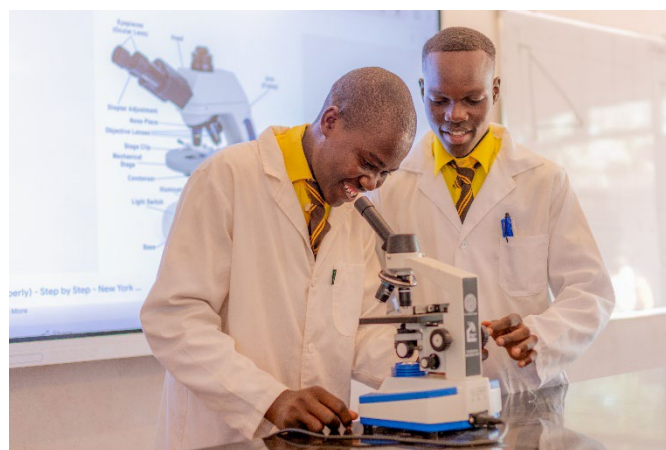
Lesedi Summary

After eleven years of building and adding a new class/grade each year, we now have the core infrastructure, equipment and staff in place to deliver quality teaching, vocational and life skills. Our focus now is improving in all we do, helping Lesedi and the Ngoko Trust to become more locally capable and self-sufficient and working with partners to increase even further the positive impact that the Schools and Clinic have on the local communities.

Non-Lesedi projects

The Trust has previously supported another project in Southeastern Zimbabwe on a capital basis only.

Depending on overall fundraising and existing Lesedi funding requirement, the Trustees will consider supporting future projects in Zimbabwe. However, given the time commitments of Lesedi on the current Trustees and a desire to not create any permanent charity staffing in the UK, any future non-Lesedi projects will likely be supported on a capital basis only.



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FINANCIAL REVIEW

The funding position during 2024 improved significantly with a net unrestricted gain boosting the Trust's reserves. Significant expenditure was incurred on the restricted funded Science Block and equipping the Secondary School. Operational costs increased due to the growth in the Secondary School but spend at the Primary and the Clinic remained well controlled.

A summary of our financial position is shown in **Section 06 Accounts** on pages 15 and 16.

Here we provide a brief narrative of the story behind the figures.

As before we account for our income and expenditure into two separate funds:

- Restricted: this ring fences income and costs allocated to a specific program (e.g. sponsorship) or project (e.g. Secondary school construction);
- Unrestricted: income that is not restricted can be spent freely on relevant charity costs.

Income

1. Financial Donations

Most of our donations are from individuals, many of whom have visited the school and experienced first-hand the difference the project is making. Many of our donors have now generously supported the project for many years.

Every donation makes a difference, no matter how large or small. 100% of each donation we receive is spent directly on developing and supporting Lesedi with zero administration costs in the UK.

2. Child Sponsorship

Our child sponsorship program was introduced at the end 2017. The cost of sponsorship was US\$30 or £25 (£20 plus gift aid) per month following a rate increase from 1 January 2023.

Sponsorship income partially covers food, salaries and other school operating costs. We hold a buffer of £10,000 of sponsorship money at the end of each year to ensure that sufficient cash flow is available.

Payments

1. Marketing activities

Following a specific restricted donation, the Trust engaged a third party to support a December 2024 marketing campaign to raise funds for vocational equipment and additional sponsorships.

2. Project costs

Major projects during the year included:

Secondary science block completion and equipment (£120k)

Agriculture projects including two shade nettings and two chicken projects (£37k)

Famine appeal spend on extra food and food processing machinery (£12k)

3. Primary School

This primarily related to the salary costs of the 12 primary teachers plus volunteer allowances. Other costs were incurred on food, utilities and other direct costs of running both schools

4. Secondary School

This mainly related to the salary costs of the 14 secondary teachers plus volunteer allowances. Secondary costs also included \$50k of equipment, books, computers and furniture. Other costs were incurred on food,

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

utilities and other direct costs of running both schools

5. Clinic

Clinic costs were mainly the salaries of 2 nurses, plus helper allowances and funding a doctor's visit once per week.

6. Other operational costs

Other costs were primarily the costs of the two local admin/finance staff plus bank fees and profit on exchange.

The 2024 accounts included a profit on exchange of £4,566 (2023: loss £10,825). As a UK-registered charity, we report in Sterling. However, on a day-to-day basis we generally work in US Dollars (USD). Donations received from the US are remitted to the project in USD. Our costs in Zimbabwe are primarily paid in USD. Converting the accounts into Sterling at the year-end results in a profit or loss on exchange depending on the change in the exchange rate during the year. It does not necessarily mean that a profit or loss has been realised.

Trustee Remuneration

No trustee remuneration was paid in 2024 or 2023.

Balance Sheet

At the year end the charity was holding net monetary assets of £350,595. This was predominantly being held in US Dollars.

£67,142 of the net monetary assets at the year-end were restricted funds representing the balance on the sponsorship fund (£10,000) plus funds for governance, vocational equipment, famine relief, teacher sponsorship, science and other equipment and projects.

The amount of Unrestricted funds at 31 December 2024 was £283,453.

£110,000 will be held in reserve to cover operating costs, in line with our Reserves Policy.

The balance of around £173,000 will cover required project and equipment costs and ongoing running costs.

Reserves Policy

Given the maturing nature of the main Lesedi project the reserves policy was changed to a minimum of 6 months' operating costs in reserve in addition to amounts allocated to restricted funds.

Previously it was 6 month's salaries.



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ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

Summary of Financial Activities

	Year to 31 December 2024			Year to 31 December 2023		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income:						
Donations	283,415	142,074	425,489	176,241	193,563	369,804
Sponsorship income	-	128,892	128,892	-	112,060	112,060
Interest income	639	-	639	-	-	-
Total income	284,054	270,966	555,020	176,241	305,623	481,864
Expenditure on raising funds						
Marketing activities	-	18,413	18,413	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities:						
Project costs	19,530	156,320	175,850	72,496	62,557	135,053
Operational costs for:						
Primary School	40,065	70,765	110,830	39,265	78,597	117,862
Secondary School	40,980	104,591	145,571	55,047	45,307	100,354
Clinic	24,952	-	24,952	22,263	-	22,263
Other	9,050	7,777	16,827	15,005	-	15,005
Total operational costs	115,047	183,133	298,180	131,580	123,904	255,484
Total expenditure	134,577	357,866	492,443	204,076	186,461	390,537
Net movement in funds	149,477	(86,900)	62,577	(27,835)	119,162	91,327
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forwards	133,976	154,042	288,018	161,811	34,880	196,691
Total funds carried forwards	283,453	67,142	350,595	133,976	154,042	288,018

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ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

Balance Sheet as at 31 December

	2024			2023		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Current Assets:						
Debtors	1,046	-	1,046	399	-	399
Cash at bank and in hand	282,407	67,142	349,549	133,577	154,042	287,619
Total net assets	283,453	67,142	350,595	133,976	154,042	288,018
Funds of the Charity:						
Restricted Funds	-	67,142	67,142	-	154,042	154,042
Unrestricted Funds	283,453	-	283,453	133,976	-	133,976
Total funds	283,453	67,142	350,595	133,976	154,042	288,018

Note:

The accounts are prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP 2015) and applicable accounting standards (FRS102).



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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Ngoko Charitable Trust (the "Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried under Section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

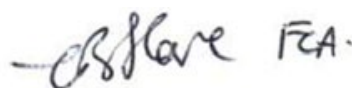
The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Colin Hoare Accountancy Services Ltd
Chartered Accountants
10 The Green
Cheddington
Buckinghamshire
LU7 0RJ



Dated 28th August 2025

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Ngoko Charitable Trust is an unincorporated Trust, constituted under a Trust Deed dated 25 May 2015 and is a registered charity (registration number 1163965).

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm they have complied with the duty in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit which addresses the need for all charities' aims to be, demonstrably, for the public benefit.

Ngoko Charitable Trust fulfils the public benefit by the relief of poverty, and improvement of poor education and health outcomes for children and their families. Details about the specific programmes pursued can be found earlier in this report.

Appointment of Trustees

There must be at least 3 trustees. Apart from the first trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution of the trustees passed at a special meeting. The current trustees are all founding trustees of the Charity and hold office for the following periods:

Fiona Thompson3 years to 2026
Benson Siyawareva 3 years to 2025
Graeme Thompson 3 years to 2027

In selecting individuals for appointment, the trustees have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity.

All trustees give their time freely and no trustee remuneration has been paid.

Organisational Structure

The management of the Charity is split between the UK and Zimbabwe.

Benson Siyawareva, in Zimbabwe, is the driving force behind the establishment of Lesedi and manages all the projects and development locally.

The Ngoko Trust, a trust set up in Zimbabwe on which Benson is a trustee, is the registered owner of the schools and clinic, and employs the staff.

In the UK, Fiona Thompson, handles administration of the sponsorship program. Graeme Thompson manages the finances. Fundraising and communication with supporters are a joint effort.

Lesedi Primary School is being led by our excellent headteacher, Mrs A. Mutori. The Secondary school since May 2024 has been led by the wonderful Lucy Chimbani.

In December 2024, the Primary school had twelve teachers and the Secondary fourteen teachers. Seventeen support staff from the local community support Lesedi as cooks, groundsmen, security guards and helpers. Many locals have also been involved in all the construction projects.

Both Schools have a School Development Committee made up of parents, members of the community and teachers. They are becoming more involved in the day-to-day operations of the schools.

Lesedi Clinic is in the capable hands of our matron-in-charge, Sister Irene, and nurse, Sister Nhondova, along with two nurse-aides and support staff. Dr Gwenhamo provides weekly consultations and supervision.

In 2024, Amos Hora was appointed as Finance and Operations Manager to oversee the day-to-day activities at the

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

school and clinic, supported by a finance assistant.

Risk Management

The Trustees actively review any major risks which the Charity faces on a regular basis and believe that we have appropriate procedures and controls to identify and mitigate against risks we are exposed to.

Adoption of the Annual Report

The trustees declare that they have approved the annual report and accounts.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.



Graeme Thompson

Treasurer

28th August 2025



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REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATION DETAILS



Charity name

Ngoko Charitable Trust

Charity number

1163965

Principal Address

28 Station Road
Tring
Hertfordshire
HP23 5NG

Trustees

Benson Siyawareva
Fiona Thompson
Graeme Thompson

Independent Examiner

Colin Hoare Accountancy Services Ltd
10 The Green
Cheddington
Buckinghamshire LU7 0RJ

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A huge thank you to all our supporters, some of whom have made very substantial donations that have allowed us to complete the Secondary school and fund a new science teaching block. We offer our thanks to everyone who is on this journey with us. Our achievements to date would not have been possible without your generous support.



All our funding comes from donations by private individuals, with many of our supporter's kind enough to remember us in their charitable giving year after year. Each donation is valued, from a few dollars up to the uniquely overwhelming donations we receive to fund big capital projects. Just as vital are the donations that enable us to pay salaries and day to day running costs.

A donation is a gesture of generosity but also one of trust. We are honoured by the trust you place in us and very aware of our responsibility to spend your donations wisely – and in full – as instructed or where the funds are needed most.

While financial donations fund all our projects, it is love that gives Lesedi its heart. Thank you to all our child sponsors whose love and caring means the world to the Lesedi children and their families.

A school is only as good as its teachers, and a clinic is only as good as its nurses. We thank them for their dedication.

We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who has provided support to the Ngoko Charitable Trust. Your support is heart-warming and an inspiration to us all.