# Stepping Stones Community Learning CIC Micro Entity Accounts 31st March 2020



Stepping Stones Community Learning CIC Micro Entity Accounts
Statement of Financial Position

| <b>Statement of Financial Position</b> |         |       |
|--|---------|-------|
| as at 31st March 2020                  | Notes   | 2020  |
|  |         | £     |
| Current assets                         |         |       |
| Inventories (Stock)                    | 5,479   |       |
| Cash at bank and in hand               | 6,391   |       |
|  | 11,870  |       |
|  |         |       |
| Creditors: amounts falling due         |         |       |
| within one year                        | (5,379) |       |
|  |         |       |
| Net current assets                     |         | 6,491 |
| Total assets less current              |         | ·     |
| liabilities                            |         | 6,491 |
| nabilities                             |         | 0,431 |
|  |         |       |
| Capital and reserves                   |         |       |
| Profit and loss account                |         | 6,491 |
| Funds                                  |         | 6,491 |
|  |         | 31.0. |

- a) For the years ending 31 March 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies regime
- b) No members have required the company to obtain an audit of in accordance with the section 476 of the Companies Act 2006
- .c) The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with the respect to accounting records and for the prepartion of accounts.
- d) The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to the small companies regime and the micro entity provisions.

Helen Allwood

Director

Approved by the board on 8th March 2021

### Stepping Stones Community Learning CIC Notes to the the Micro Entity Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020

#### 1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

#### i) Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company, net of value added tax and trade discounts.

300001/15

## **CIC 34**

### **Community Interest Company Report**

| For official use<br>(Please leave blank) |  |
|--|--|
| Company Name in full                     | Stepping Stones Community Learning CIC |
| Company Number                           | 11899139                               |
| Year Ending                              | 31/03/20                               |

This template illustrates what the Regulator of Community Interest Companies considers to be best practice for completing a simplified community interest company report. All such reports must be delivered in accordance with section 34 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and contain the information required by Part 7 of the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. For further guidance see chapter 8 of the Regulator's guidance notes and the alternate example provided for a more complex company with more detailed notes.

#### PART 1 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT

Stepping Stones Community Learning CIC has had a productive first year as a spin-out Community Interest Company. The CIC was incorporated in order to ensure the longevity and sustainability of an ESOL programme developed during a knowledge exchange research project at LuCiD at the University of Manchester and to build on this work.

Our free downloadable ESOL Stepping Stones resources, designed for settings to deliver basic English sessions to mums along with their babies, have found a wide audience across the UK and beyond. Prior to becoming a CIC, (June 2018-March 2019) the project authorised 108 free downloads of our programme materials to settings and/or areas, sold 44 hard copy packs, and our e-Learning programme for facilitators was visited 530 times.

By incorporating the CIC we have been able to continue to support settings by providing our free ESOL programme resources, support and training, so that they can, in turn, support families new to English in their local communities. Since becoming a CIC in March 2019, we have continued our work and have authorised a further 88 free downloads of our programme materials, sold a further 12 hard copy packs and had a further 425 visits to our online e-training for facilitators, meaning that this particular resource has been accessed almost 1000 times since launch.

Our materials have been accessed all over the UK and across the world, including in China, USA, Cyprus, Spain, Germany, Chile and South Africa. The provision of our materials and training continue to empower community settings across the world to deliver basic English sessions to mums along with their babies, as a first step on a learning journey for these women. The programme continues to help to overcome barriers to learning and is a tool to improve engagement with, and uptake of, appropriate services and community support. The programme also adds to the skill set, resources and continuing professional development of community settings' staff and volunteers.

By providing teaching and learning materials to appropriate settings within communities, we have increased the provision of suitable, effective, targeted learning opportunities for adults. Our programme materials continue to empower existing staff and volunteers to deliver courses, such as ESOL mums and babies courses in Children's Centres, where there is an unmet need and no existing suitable provision. This also enhances the skill set and resources of community settings staff and volunteers to provide what their community needs allowing them to take more control over what their setting can offer.

#### Award nominations

The ESOL Stepping Stones project team were delighted to be a Finalist in the British Council's ELTons 2019 Awards in the Local Innovation category. The ELTons celebrate the most original courses, publications, projects, apps and platforms, and more, which are finding new ways to help English language learners and teachers around the world achieve their goals. The awards also recognise the organisations, teams and individuals whose original approaches are helping to shape the future of English language teaching and learning.

The team were also delighted to have received a 'Highly Commended' Award at the University of Manchester's 'Making a Difference' Awards for Social Responsibility 2019 in the Outstanding Contribution to Social Innovation category.

#### PART 2 - CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

The main stakeholders for our CIC are the staff and volunteers in community settings who wish to support adult learners and deliver programmes embedded within their community. Other stakeholders include NHS practitioners, such as midwives, charities and other organisations supporting refugees and new arrivals in the UK, and adult learning providers, such as the WEA.

#### Survey of customers/stakeholders

We sent a survey asking for feedback from existing customers of the programme, identified as the practitioners who had requested a download or who had purchased a pack to deliver the programme, in Spring 2019. We had 26 responses, all incredibly positive, such as

"The course started as a pilot programme. It has become very popular, due to demand. The course will be running in the future. Moving forward this course has been implemented onto our timetable."

"The course has helped the staff involved to feel better equipped to support EAL families and in particular as we have linked with an ESOL Tutor have been empowered to know how to tailor the course to the needs of the parents attending"

"The programme has been popular with our parents . This course has given parents a great deal of confidence. It has also given them empowerment."

"The course has allowed our parents to socialise and come out of the house and meet new people. It has given them the confidence with daily tasks such as shopping and going to the doctors."

#### **Case Studies**

Research was undertaken at two settings in Rochdale who had delivered the programme to gather their feedback and to develop case studies to show how it can be implemented and to support other settings.

#### Conferences

The CIC has been invited to speak at large national conferences such as the National Literacy Trust's 'Talk to Your Baby' in January 2019.

In July 2019 we exhibited at the Innovation Optimiser Showcase at the University of Manchester to talk about our journey to becoming a CIC.

In February 2020 we exhibited at the North West Regional ESOL event, supporting the work of the Migration Partnership, which provided a great opportunity to talk to prospective stakeholders.

#### Visits and collaborations with stakeholders

Visits have been undertaken to organisations, such as charities supporting refugees to discuss their needs and to share the programme and the resources available, for them to support their clients. Other visits to share the programme include to a Yorkshire Museums' social prescribing training day for community engagement practitioners.

Programme launches were undertaken at several settings, such as Toxteth Library in April 2019; a collaboration with the WEA ensured that the programme could be delivered successfully, after a joint launch event bringing together professionals from the NHS, Improving Me, WEA adult learning, the CIC, potential learners and members of the public. Another collaboration with the WEA meant that the programme also ran at the Harris Museum in Preston in June 2019.

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In March 2020, we were also in talks with like-minded charities and CICs in Manchester to plan a joint venture to develop an ESOL family cooking programme, which is currently on hold due to the pandemic and the limitations on in-person family learning at this time.

#### Website development and social media

Early in 2020 we launched our new website <a href="www.steppingstonescic.org.uk">www.steppingstonescic.org.uk</a> which hosts our case studies, evaluation reports (both internal and external), our e-training module and further full details about the project. It also allow interested stakeholders to get in touch with enquiries. We also have developed a Twitter account (@ESOL\_Step\_Stone) to further promote the programme and engage with stakeholders.

#### PART 3 - DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

The Directors were not remunerated this financial year.

There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director's loss of office, which require to be disclosed.

#### PART 4 – TRANSFERS OF ASSETS OTHER THAN FOR FULL CONSIDERATION

No transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made.

#### PART 5 – SIGNATORY (Please note this must be a live signature)

The original report must be signed by a director or secretary of the company

| Signed | XVIIII |  |
|--------|--------|--|
|--------|--------|--|

(DD/MM/YY)
Date 08/03/21

Please note that it is a legal requirement for the date format to be provided in full throughout the CIC34 report.

Applications will be rejected if this is information is incorrect.

|  | Office held (delete as appropriate) Director/Secretary |             |  |
|--|--|-------------|--|
| You do not have to give any contact information in the box opposite but if you do, it will help the Registrar of                                   |  |             |  |
| Companies to contact you if there is a query on the form. The contact information that you give will be visible to searchers of the public record. |  | <u></u>     |  |
|  | Tel  |             |  |
|  | DX Number  | DX Exchange |  |

When you have completed and signed the form, please attach it to the accounts and send both forms by post to the Registrar of Companies at:

For companies registered in England and Wales: Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ DX 33050 Cardiff

For companies registered in Scotland: Companies House, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Edinburgh Quay 2, 139 Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, EH3 9FF DX 235 Edinburgh or LP – 4 Edinburgh 2

For companies registered in Northern Ireland: Companies House, 2nd Floor, The Linenhall, 32-38 Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BG

(N.B. Please enclose a cheque for £15 payable to Companies House)