

Registered number: 03466442

Charity number: 1067859

The Music For Schools Foundation

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024



The Music For Schools Foundation
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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The Music For Schools Foundation
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisers
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Trustees	M Byrne S Mercer A Padbury
Company registered number	03466442
Charity registered number	1067859
Registered office	Unit 3 Ryknild Trading Estate Derby Road Burton-on-Trent Staffordshire DE14 1RZ
Company secretary	S Mercer
Senior management team	A Wooding, Head of Service K Robinson, Education Advisor T Preece, Enrolment Manager B Prankard, Teacher Support A Garland, Teacher Support E Jacques, Teacher Support P Maddox, Teacher Support
Independent Examiner	Dains Audit Limited 2 Chamberlain Square Paradise Circus Birmingham B3 3AX
Bankers	Royal Bank of Scotland Plc 38-41 Station Street Burton-on-Trent DE14 1AX

Trustees' Report
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Charity qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

Objectives and activities

Policies and objectives

The objectives of the Charity are:

- The advancement of musical education;
- To provide an opportunity for children of all ages to learn to play a musical instrument by increasing access to musical instruments in school; and by arranging musical concerts and musical workshops at all times during the school year and during school holidays; and by offering free tuition to children whose means prevent payment;
- To promote, encourage and organise school community bands;
- To do all other things and all other acts deemed by the Trustees to be in the advancement of musical education.

The Charity's main objective is to make instrument teaching in primary schools accessible to as many children as possible.

The principal aim for the year was to continue to increase pupil numbers through visits to schools to deliver musical assemblies, whilst working to reduce operating costs.

Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The Charity teaches approximately 2,300 pupils in 220 schools throughout the country, giving a wide range of children the opportunity to play musical instruments that they may otherwise not have had. The Charity actively works to increase interest in music through the use of musical assemblies in schools and to introduce children to the idea of playing a musical instrument.

The Charity charges for tuition, but provides assistance to pupils in need of financial support. At present approximately 70 pupils take advantage of subsidised tuition. The Trustees are conscious of the need to make the tuition available to as many pupils as possible. The tuition fees are set at a level which is generally affordable but which also provides sufficient funds for the Charity to support those who are unable to pay the fees.

The Charity uses approximately 55 teachers throughout the country, and ensures that teaching standards are maintained by a continuous training and development programme. Teachers are also encouraged to promote the playing of musical instruments outside lessons via school ensembles and bands, and also to guide pupils towards taking externally recognised examinations.

When planning the activities for the year the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Main activities undertaken to further the Charity's purposes for the public benefit

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit.

The primary activity undertaken by the charity is that of instrument teaching. The main objective of the Charity is to make instrument teaching in primary schools accessible to as many children as possible.

Achievements and performance

Review of activities

Pupil Numbers

Pupil numbers rose consistently compared to previous years following the demonstration/assemblies given in schools by The Music for Schools Foundation ('MfSF') 'Music Man'. 122 schools were visited, which was slightly fewer than in 2022/23, however 1131 new pupils were still recruited during the year. Due to the introduction of a new instrument (the 'Mini' Saxophone) there has been a significant increase in the number of younger pupils enrolling for lessons.

Exams 2023/2024

Nearly 100 candidates were entered for ABRSM Exams, with 75% pupils taking traditional face to face exams, which is a move back away from the alternative remote exam style favoured during and post-Covid. 98% of pupils were successful. There is a significant increase in the overall number of entries, which shows that pupils are continuing to progress beyond the 'beginner' stage of learning.

MfSF Tutors

During the year, the selection and training of new tutors was reviewed. It continues to be challenging to recruit high quality tutors but at 31 August 2024 there was a net increase in the overall number of registered tutors. We continue to explore alternative methods for recruiting tutors, including the use of social media advertising.

Promotion

In February 2024, the Enrolment Manager and Head of Service exhibited at the Music and Drama Exhibition in London. This was the second time of exhibiting for the Charity and on this occasion, a new school expressed an interest in the scheme, resulting in a successful assembly performance and new pupils enrolled. We have booked again to exhibit at next year's event.

Head Office Staff

Following the departure of a staff member in December 2022, two new full-time employees were appointed in early 2024. This has allowed better management of the daily tasks required due to the increased number of pupils learning and as a result further capacity to investigate other projects.

Achievements and performance (continued)

Investment policy and performance

The Trustee and management team have again considered the most appropriate policy for investing temporary surplus funds and have concluded that the most suitable investment funds currently available are a deposit account and two fixed rate bonds with the Charity's bankers which provide necessary access to funds whilst giving a satisfactory rate of interest in the present financial market.

Financial review

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Details of incoming resources and resources expended are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 7 of the financial statements. Net incoming resources for the year ended 31 August 2024 were £45,303 (2023 - £28,066)

Reserves policy

The Charity intends to retain and build funds over the coming years over and above £100,000. The policy of retaining significant funds within the Charity has ensured the continuation of the Charity over the past 2 years, which have been significantly disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Music For Schools Foundation was incorporated on 17 November 1997 under the Companies Act 1985. Being a Company limited by guarantee it is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Company is also a registered Charity with the Charity Commission. In the event of the Company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the Charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. All Trustees are elected to serve for a period of three years at which point their position is reviewed.

Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Trustees aim to meet on a twice yearly basis and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Charity. A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility of the scheme rests with the Head of Service.

Trustees' Report (continued)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees will undergo an orientation meeting to brief them on their legal obligations under Charity and Company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the working of the scheme and recent financial performance of the Charity. A comprehensive information pack has also been prepared with relevant information about the Charity and its projects, which is distributed to each Trustee.

Pay policy for key management personnel

The pay and remuneration of the Charity's key personnel are reviewed periodically by the Trustees to ensure these are appropriate and in line with market conditions.

Related party relationships

None of the Trustees held any interest in the funds of the Charity. There were no related party transactions in the year (2023 - £Nil).

Plans for future periods

With new Head Office staff in place, attention will be turned to the development of the scheme in other areas, such as the sourcing of external funding, such as grant applications and private donations. It is also hoped that there will be more opportunity to invest time in developing more comprehensive training, support and resources for the tutors engaged with MfSF.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 19 February 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



M Byrne
Trustee



S Mercer
Trustee

The Music For Schools Foundation
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Examiner's Report
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Music For Schools Foundation ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the Charity (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:



Dated: 19 February 2025

Mark Gurney

FCCA

Dains Audit Limited

Birmingham

The Music For Schools Foundation
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	3	5,843	5,843	7,158
Charitable activities	4	561,399	561,399	510,829
Investments	5	2,179	2,179	950
Total income		569,421	569,421	518,937
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	6	524,118	524,118	490,871
Total expenditure		524,118	524,118	490,871
Net movement in funds		45,303	45,303	28,066
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		74,410	74,410	46,344
Net movement in funds		45,303	45,303	28,066
Total funds carried forward		119,713	119,713	74,410

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

The Music For Schools Foundation
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Registered number: 03466442

Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Debtors	11	56	1,877
Cash at bank and in hand		124,354	79,111
		<u>124,410</u>	<u>80,988</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(4,697)	(6,578)
		<u>119,713</u>	<u>74,410</u>
Net current assets			
		<u>119,713</u>	<u>74,410</u>
Total net assets			
		<u><u>119,713</u></u>	<u><u>74,410</u></u>
Charity funds			
Unrestricted funds	13	119,713	74,410
		<u>119,713</u>	<u>74,410</u>
Total funds			
		<u><u>119,713</u></u>	<u><u>74,410</u></u>

The Charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 19 February 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



M Byrne
Trustee



S Mercer
Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1. General information

The Music for Schools Foundation is a charitable company, incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in England and Wales under the Companies Act and registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is given in the reference and administrative information of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are given in the Trustees' Report.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Music For Schools Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.5 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.6 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.7 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.9 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the Year.

2.10 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	5,843	5,843	7,158

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Teaching income	552,353	552,353	505,034
Examination fees	6,616	6,616	5,795
Workshop income	2,430	2,430	-
	<u>561,399</u>	<u>561,399</u>	<u>510,829</u>

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Bank interest receivable	2,179	2,179	950
	<u>2,179</u>	<u>2,179</u>	<u>950</u>

6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Teaching related costs	516,645	516,645	485,556
Exam fees	7,473	7,473	5,315
	<u>524,118</u>	<u>524,118</u>	<u>490,871</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Teaching related costs	375,343	141,302	516,645
Examination fees	7,473	-	7,473
	<u>382,816</u>	<u>141,302</u>	<u>524,118</u>

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Teaching related costs	365,226	120,330	485,556
Examination fees	5,315	-	5,315
	<u>370,541</u>	<u>120,330</u>	<u>490,871</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Teaching related costs 2024 £	Exam fees 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	64,683	-	64,683
Teaching expenses	276,161	7,473	283,634
Postage and stationery	171	-	171
Sundry expenses	1,121	-	1,121
Advertising	8,194	-	8,194
Travel expenses	13,698	-	13,698
Bank charges	462	-	462
Credit card charges	9,516	-	9,516
Repairs and maintenance	23	-	23
Exhibition expenses	1,314	-	1,314
	<u>375,343</u>	<u>7,473</u>	<u>382,816</u>

	Teaching related costs 2023 £	Exam fees 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	75,338	-	75,338
Teaching expenses	263,980	5,315	269,295
Postage and stationery	352	-	352
Sundry expenses	432	-	432
Advertising	2,401	-	2,401
Travel expenses	12,805	-	12,805
Bank charges	528	-	528
Credit card charges	8,097	-	8,097
Repairs and maintenance	310	-	310
Exhibition expenses	983	-	983
	<u>365,226</u>	<u>5,315</u>	<u>370,541</u>

The Music For Schools Foundation
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Teaching related costs	Total funds	Total funds
	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£
Staff costs	50,248	50,248	33,461
Professional charges	13,003	13,003	-
General administration	73,506	73,506	82,894
Governance costs	4,545	4,545	3,975
	<u>141,302</u>	<u>141,302</u>	<u>120,330</u>

8. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner inclusive of irrecoverable VAT	<u>4,545</u>	<u>3,975</u>

9. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	109,607	104,564
Social security costs	2,924	2,358
Pension costs	2,400	1,877
	<u>114,931</u>	<u>108,799</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

9. Staff costs (continued)

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Average employees	5	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel for their services was £114,931 (2023 - £108,799).

10. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year ended 31 August 2024, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2024, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2023 - £NIL).

11. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	56	56
Prepayments and accrued income	-	1,821
	<u>56</u>	<u>1,877</u>

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	194	237
Other creditors	526	-
Accruals and deferred income	3,977	6,341
	<u>4,697</u>	<u>6,578</u>

The Music For Schools Foundation
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

13. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	74,410	569,421	(524,118)	119,713

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	46,344	518,937	(490,871)	74,410

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

14. Pension commitments

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension costs charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £2,400 (2023 - £1,877). There was no balance outstanding at the balance sheet date (2023 - £Nil).

15. Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

16. Related party transactions

The Charity has not entered into any related party transactions during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Charity at 31 August 2024.

17. Controlling Party

At 31 August 2024, the Trustees considered there to be no ultimate controlling party.