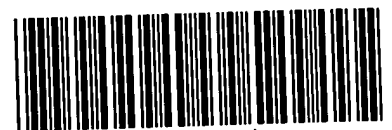


Registered Charity No: 1103955
Company Number: 05114710

NOVALIS TRUST
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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**NOVALIS TRUST
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**NOVALIS TRUST
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Charity number	1103955
Company registration number	05114710
Registered office	Ebley House 235 Westward Road Ebley Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 4SX
Principal office	Ebley House 235 Westward Road Ebley Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 4SX
Trustees	M Bennett E Buckland D Walton M Smith D Rice (Appointed 6 September 2023) G Moss (Appointed 4 September 2024) M Stern (Appointed 4 September 2024)
Secretary	P Furlley (resigned 4 July 2024) Double Six Legal Limited (Appointed 4 July 2024)
Chief executive	J Lukas
Auditors	Hazlewoods LLP Windsor House Bayshill Road Cheltenham GL50 3AT
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc 12 Rowcroft Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 3BD

**NOVALIS TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024.

1 STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document and Management Novalis Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is governed by its memorandum and articles of association. It is a registered charity with the Charity Commission. Previously, the company was known as The Novalis Trust Limited, Cotswold Chine School, and later as Cotswold Chine & Paradise House Limited before adopting its current name. The company currently trades as:

1. Cotswold Chine School
2. Paradise House
3. Ebley House
4. William Morris College

The following Trustees have held office since 1 September 2022:

- M. Bennett
- E. Buckland
- D. Walton
- M. Smith (Appointed 1 March 2023)
- D. M. Rice (Appointed 6 September 2023)
- Martin Stern (Appointed 4 September 2024)
- Greg Moss (Appointed 4 September 2024)
- J. Houlston-Hope (Resigned 9 January 2023)

Appointment of Trustees

The appointment of Trustees is governed by the articles of association, the Trustees being authorised to fill vacancies arising through resignation or death of an existing Trustee.

Trustees induction and training

New Trustees undergo an orientation process to brief them on their legal obligations under the charity and company law, the content of the memorandum and articles of association, the charity's operations and the decision making processes, the future plans and the recent financial performance of the charity. The charity has paid for insurance premiums to indemnify the charity from any loss arising from neglect or defaults of Trustees or staff.

Organisation

The Trustees meet regularly to oversee the charity's affairs, the day to day operation of which is in the hands of the Chief Executive, J Lukas and his Senior Management Team.

The Trustees have backgrounds in accountancy, law, education, clinical therapy, and health. They work closely with the Chief Executive and the Senior Management Team to oversee Paradise House, William Morris College, Cotswold Chine School, and the charity's head office at Ebley House.

Register of Trustees' Interests

The secretary maintains a Register of Trustees' Interests; no material conflicts have been identified.

The related party transactions are included in note 19 to these financial statements.

NOVALIS TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Governance Manual

A Governance Manual is maintained by the secretary and reviewed biennially by the Board. It provides direction and guidance to the Trustees on the organisation and structure of the charity.

Strategic Report

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises an on-going review of the risks the charity may face; the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate the identified risks; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

The Trustees' assessment of specific risks facing the company going forward are:

- A decline in confidence in the organisation, leading to a reduction in placements.
- Authorities opting for other county or local authority state provisions, impacting funding and the sustainability of charitable activities.

A risk register is maintained and reviewed annually by the Board.

Going concern

The Trustees have prepared forecasts for the next 12 months that indicate that the Trust will continue to have sufficient resources available to trade as a going concern. The Trustees, therefore, have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and have continued to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. The Trust maintains cash reserves to cover operational costs, including salaries, for a minimum of six months.

2 OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charity's mission is to provide education, care, and therapy for children, young people, and adults, particularly those with emotional, behavioural, and special learning needs. It achieves this through residential and day schools, as well as residential care for adults with learning difficulties.

The Novalis Model, a trauma-informed and evidence-supported approach, underpins the charity's work. It fosters positive relationships and secure attachments within a therapeutic, low-arousal environment.

Our core values—Kindness, Empathy, Creativity, Curiosity, and Positivity—guide staff recruitment and inform the organisation's practices.

The charity operates two independent special schools:

1. **Cotswold Chine School** – Approved by the Department for Education to admit up to 60 pupils (ages 7-19), with up to 42 on residential placements. Some placements exceed 295 days per year, requiring additional Ofsted registration as a children's home.
2. **William Morris School** – Approved to admit up to 50 pupils (ages 7-19), with boarding available for up to 14 pupils for up to 39 weeks per year.

The charity also owns and operates:

- **Paradise House**, a residential care home for adults with learning difficulties, registered for up to 30 residents with the Care Quality Commission (CQC).
- **Ebley House**, the charity's headquarters, which houses central services such as staff training, HR, finance, and conference facilities.
- **Halfway Café and Shop**, providing work experience opportunities, re-opened in 2024 with a fresh sandwich bar and bakery.

The Trust collaborates with academics and professionals to advance knowledge in trauma-informed care, attachment-related difficulties, and recovery approaches.

NOVALIS TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

3 ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The charity continues to provide a therapeutic nurturing environment for vulnerable people through the provision of education, social care and clinical therapy in a way that helps young people overcome barriers to their learning. In the case of adults the provision offers specialist support to lead as person-centred and fulfilling a life as possible.

Opportunities for young people and residents to access the local community through the provision of independence training and suitable accommodation. A range of suitable activities that offer educational and occupational opportunities are provided.

- **Ofsted Inspections:**
 - Cotswold Chine School (Jan 2022) – Rated 'Good,' with 'Outstanding' for personal development.
 - William Morris School (June 2023) – Rated 'Good,' with approval to increase student numbers to 50 in Jan 2025.
 - Cotswold Chine School Care Provision (Jan 2025) – Rated 'Good' under the new Ofsted framework.
 - Paradise House (Jan 2022) – Maintained its 2019 CQC rating of 'Good' overall, with 'Outstanding' for caring.
- **Clinical and Therapeutic Services Expansion:**
 - Therapy team includes a Clinical Psychologist, Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, Family Therapist, Behavioral Analyst, Occupational Therapists, and Speech and Language Therapists.
 - Ongoing training in Trauma-Informed Care, Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT), and Social Resilience Model (SRM).

4 FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Trust's overall income was higher than the previous financial year with costs increasing also. Total income was £14,498,090 (2023 - £13,594,892), with total costs of £14,717,988 (2023 - £13,311,806). Net assets at the year end were £20,819,813 (2023 - £21,039,711).

5 PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

- Expansion of William Morris School's boarding provision in September 2025.
- Continued refurbishment of facilities.
- Increased focus on health and well-being initiatives.
- Strengthening governance through the recruitment of Trustees with expertise in law and child psychotherapy.
- Environmental initiatives, including improved EV charging infrastructure.

**NOVALIS TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Reserve policy

Previously, designated funds were set aside for the purchasing of a property to use as holiday accommodation for students, residents and young people. The Trust purchased this property during the year to 31 August 2024, and therefore the reserve has been transferred into general funds. The Charity aims to hold a minimum of three months of cash reserves to cover operational costs, including salaries.

Free reserves at the year end were £1,826,522 (2023 - £2,035,019).

Investment Policy

The Trustees review the available resources, and any surplus is deposited in a high interest savings account until it is needed.

Taxation Status

The Company is a registered charity and consequently is exempt from Corporation Tax.

6 AUDITORS

Hazlewoods LLP have acted as auditors and a resolution proposing that they be re-appointed will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

7 STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE TO AUDITOR

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- (a) there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- (b) the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

By order of the Board

Matthew Bennett

.....
**M Bennett
Trustee**

12/3/2025

Date:

NOVALIS TRUST
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees (who are the directors of Novalis Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe methods and principles in the Charities SORP (Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are also responsible for ensuring that the assets are properly applied in accordance with charity law.

**NOVALIS TRUST (Company Number: 05114710)
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Novalis Trust for the year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2024 of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

NOVALIS TRUST (Company Number: 05114710)
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the group and the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page 9, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the charity to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the charity's audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**NOVALIS TRUST (Company Number: 05114710)
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS (continued)**

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISA's (UK).

In identifying and assessing risks of material mis-statement in respect of fraud, including irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the company financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the company's operations. We determined that the most significant laws and regulations included UK GAAP, UK Companies Act 2006 and taxation laws.
- We understood how the company is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries of management, those responsible for legal and compliance procedures.
- We assesses the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:
 - Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls management has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
 - Understanding how those charged with governance considered and addressed the potential for override of controls or other inappropriate influence over the financial reporting process. Detailed analysis of journals posted through the accounting system during the year to 31 August 2024 has been undertaken;
 - Understanding the controls in place to prevent and detect fraud. Reliance was not placed on controls for the entirety of the audit, instead taking a substantive testing approach, however controls were in place to prevent fraud, and they appeared to be working effectively;
 - Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Martin Howard

.....
Martin Howard (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Hazlewoods LLP, Statutory Auditor

Windsor House
Bayshill Road
Cheltenham
GL50 3AT

13/3/2025

Date:.....

NOVALIS TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies					
- Residential care donation		1,164	-	1,164	4,823
		<u>1,164</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,164</u>	<u>4,823</u>
Charitable activities:					
- Special needs school fees		-	11,429,525	11,429,525	10,621,928
- Residential care fees		-	2,955,177	2,955,177	2,812,017
		<u>-</u>	<u>14,384,702</u>	<u>14,384,702</u>	<u>13,433,945</u>
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
- Investment income	2	-	57,542	57,542	27,165
Other incoming resources		<u>-</u>	<u>54,682</u>	<u>54,682</u>	<u>128,959</u>
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		<u>1,164</u>	<u>14,496,926</u>	<u>14,498,090</u>	<u>13,594,892</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities		(1,714)	(14,724,783)	(14,726,497)	(13,320,207)
Profit on sale of fixed assets		<u>-</u>	<u>8,509</u>	<u>8,509</u>	<u>8,401</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3	<u>(1,714)</u>	<u>(14,716,274)</u>	<u>(14,717,988)</u>	<u>(13,311,806)</u>

NOVALIS TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Net movement in funds		(550)	(219,348)	(219,898)	283,086
Total funds brought forward		90,547	20,949,164	21,039,711	20,756,625
Total funds carried forward	14	<u>89,997</u>	<u>20,729,816</u>	<u>20,819,813</u>	<u>21,039,711</u>

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above and all operations are continuing.

To enable a better understanding of the financial statements, the Statement of Financial Activities separately identifies the income and costs of running the main activities.

Note of historical cost income and expenditure

	2024 £	2023 £
Reported net movement in funds	(219,898)	283,086
Difference between the historical cost depreciation charge and the actual depreciation charge of the year calculated on the revalued amount	57,631	41,387
Historical cost net movement in funds	<u>(162,267)</u>	<u>324,473</u>

NOVALIS TRUST
BALANCE SHEET (Company Number: 05114710)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	7	18,903,293	18,914,144
Investments	8	1	1
		<u>18,903,294</u>	<u>18,914,145</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	9	300	962
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	2,688,701	1,715,505
Debtors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	10	237,059	234,348
Cash at bank and in hand		3,978,687	4,679,712
		<u>6,904,747</u>	<u>6,630,527</u>
CREDITORS			
Due within one year	11	(4,988,228)	(4,504,961)
		<u>1,916,519</u>	<u>2,125,566</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>1,916,519</u>	<u>2,125,566</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES			
		<u>20,819,813</u>	<u>21,039,711</u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Funds			
Restricted funds	15	89,997	90,547
Unrestricted funds:	14		
Operational general fund		13,868,861	14,030,578
Property revaluation reserve		6,860,955	6,918,586
		<u>20,819,813</u>	<u>21,039,711</u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
		<u>20,819,813</u>	<u>21,039,711</u>

12/3/2025

Approved by the Board for issue on

M Bennett

M Bennett - Trustee

NOVALIS TRUST
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Operational general fund £	Property revaluation reserve £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Funds brought forward at 1 September 2023	14,030,578	6,918,586	-	90,547	21,039,711
Net outgoing resources before transfers	(219,348)	-	-	(550)	(219,898)
Depreciation on revalued amounts	57,631	(57,631)	-	-	-
Funds carried forward at 31 August 2024	<u>13,868,861</u>	<u>6,860,955</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>89,997</u>	<u>20,819,813</u>

	Operational general fund £	Property revaluation reserve £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Funds brought forward at 1 September 2022	13,155,922	6,959,973	550,000	90,730	20,756,625
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers	283,269	-	-	(183)	283,086
Transfer in the year	550,000	-	(550,000)	-	-
Depreciation on revalued amounts	41,387	(41,387)	-	-	-
Funds carried forward at 31 August 2023	<u>14,030,578</u>	<u>6,918,586</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>90,547</u>	<u>21,039,711</u>

**NOVALIS TRUST
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Note	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Cash generated from operating activities	18		123,790		2,800,695
Cash flows from investing activities					
Interest income		57,542		27,165	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(919,582)		(1,918,514)	
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		37,225		74,511	
Cash used in investing activities			(824,814)		(1,816,838)
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year			(701,025)		983,857
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			4,679,712		3,695,855
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			3,978,687		4,679,712

**NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets, adopting the following principal accounting policies all of which are in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS102) issued in July 2014 and The Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are presented in Pounds Sterling. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest Pound.

Company status

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1. The company is subject to the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with regards to the form and content of the financial statements.

The company is a private company, limited by guarantee without share capital, incorporated and domiciled in England and Wales.

The address of its registered office is:

Ebley House
235 Westward Road
Ebley
Stroud
Gloucestershire
GL5 4SX

Judgements

The Trustees consider that there are no key areas of judgement or estimation uncertainty to be disclosed in these financial statements.

Consolidated financial statements

The financial statements do not include the consolidated financial results of the Charity and its subsidiary company, Novalis Professional Services Limited, on the grounds that the subsidiary company's results are immaterial to the group.

Funds

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds, which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees; or
- Unrestricted designated funds, which can be used in accordance with the Charitable objects, in respect of specific projects ear-marked by the Trustees; or
- Restricted funds, which can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions are specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. All funds received to date have been applied against capital projects.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SOFA") when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Overheads and other costs not directly attributable to particular functional activity categories are apportioned over the relevant categories on the basis of management estimates of the amount attributable to that activity in the year on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Governance costs include strategic planning costs for the Charity's future development, external audit and all costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as costs of Board and Committee meetings and for preparing statutory financial statements and satisfying public accountability.

Taxation

The Company is an Exempt Charity within the meaning of Schedule 2 of the Charities Act 1993 and as such is a charity within the meaning of Section 519 of the Income Tax Act 2007 (formerly Section 506(1) of the Taxes Act 1988). Accordingly, the company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Section 524 of the Income Tax Act 2007 (formerly Section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988) or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Tax 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

There is no set limit for the capitalisation of expenditure on acquisition, enhancement, production and installation of fixed assets. Tangible fixed assets are stated in the balance sheet at cost less depreciation, except for freehold land and buildings which are stated at their open market value.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of tangible assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Freehold land	Nil
Freehold buildings	1% of cost per annum
Fixtures and equipment	10% - 50% of cost per annum
Motor vehicles	12.5% - 50% of cost per annum

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Stocks

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risk of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade receivables

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. All debtors are repayable within one year and are hence included at the undiscounted amount of the cash expected to be received. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Trust will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Trade payables

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and all are repayable within one year and hence are included at the undiscounted amount of cash expected to be paid.

Financial instruments

The trust 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.

Pension costs

Contributions are made on behalf of teaching staff to the Government pension scheme for teachers, which is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme (note 17).

With regard to non-teaching employees, contributions are made to the defined contribution pension scheme. All contributions are charged to the SOFA as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the schemes.

2 INVESTMENT INCOME

	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds 2024	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	-	57,542	57,542	27,165
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3 ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Staff Costs £	Other costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Charitable activities:				
- Special needs education	7,533,181	2,904,758	10,437,939	9,324,494
- Residential care	1,540,780	482,765	2,023,545	1,726,840
- Support costs	1,164,698	1,091,806	2,256,504	2,260,472
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	10,238,660	4,479,329	14,717,988	13,311,806
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

4 ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Special needs education £	Residential care £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	1,164,698	-	1,164,698	1,144,248
Professional fees	115,199	101,558	216,757	212,147
Communication and information technology	67,826	67,672	135,498	107,755
Office supplies and postage	138,735	131,567	270,302	343,586
Other costs	425,779	43,470	469,249	452,736
	<u>1,912,237</u>	<u>344,267</u>	<u>2,256,504</u>	<u>2,260,472</u>

5 AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the Company's auditor for the audit of the Company's Annual accounts	15,750	15,500
Fees payable to the Company's auditor in respect of: All non-audit services not included above	3,375	3,300
	<u>19,125</u>	<u>18,800</u>

6 EMPLOYMENT COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	8,683,238	7,825,946
Social security costs	811,817	722,888
Other pension costs	682,361	568,432
Other costs	148,412	166,205
	<u>10,325,828</u>	<u>9,283,471</u>

The average monthly numbers of employees during the year is disclosed below. There is no material difference between this and the equivalent average number of employees calculated on the basis of full time equivalents:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Special needs education	150	134
Residential care	56	67
Administration and maintenance	103	103
	<u>309</u>	<u>304</u>

No Trustee received or waived any emoluments during either year and £nil (2023 - £nil) of expenses were reimbursed to Trustees.

NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Emoluments of £97,000 (2023 - £97,000) were made to the Chief Executive Officer.

Payments for redundancy or termination of contracts made in the year amounted to £nil (2023 - £nil).

The number of higher paid employees who received emoluments in excess of £60,000 were in the following bands:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	2	-
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1
£80,001 - £90,000	-	1
£90,001 - £100,000	-	-
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-
£110,001 - £120,000	-	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings £	Motor vehicles £	Fixtures and equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2023	18,446,138	1,270,019	6,322,555	26,038,712
Additions	-	142,150	777,432	919,582
Disposals	-	(102,925)	-	(102,925)
	<u>18,446,138</u>	<u>1,309,244</u>	<u>7,099,987</u>	<u>26,855,369</u>
At 31 August 2024	18,446,138	1,309,244	7,099,987	26,855,369
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	1,604,877	720,716	4,798,975	7,124,568
Charge for year	148,626	164,870	588,221	901,717
Disposals	-	(74,209)	-	(74,209)
	<u>1,753,503</u>	<u>811,377</u>	<u>5,387,196</u>	<u>7,952,076</u>
At 31 August 2024	1,753,503	811,377	5,387,196	7,952,076
Net book value				
At 31 August 2024	<u>16,692,635</u>	<u>497,867</u>	<u>1,712,791</u>	<u>18,903,293</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>16,841,261</u>	<u>549,303</u>	<u>1,523,580</u>	<u>18,914,144</u>

Freehold property includes £4,967,807 (2023 - £4,967,807) in respect of land which has not been depreciated.

The freehold properties of the Trust were valued by Bennett Jones & Jones Lang Lassalle IP Inc, both Chartered Surveyors, as at 31 August 2016. The open market valuation, for existing use, was £15,195,000.

Depreciation in the year on a historic cost basis would have been £107,239 (2023 - £107,239).

On a historical cost basis the cost of the residential property would have been £10,723,911 (2023 - £10,723,911) and aggregate depreciation thereon would have been £3,195,205 (2023 - £3,087,966). The aggregate carrying value of the property at historical cost would have been £7,528,706 (2023 - £7,635,945).

NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8 INVESTMENTS

	Interest in Shares £
Cost and net book value	
At 1 September 2023 and at 31 August 2024	1

Investments represent a £1 investment in Novalis Professional Services Limited.

Subsidiary holdings

The company holds 100% of the ordinary share capital in Novalis Professional Services Limited (Company number 07979523), a company incorporated in England. The company's profit for the year is £26,313 (2023 loss - £14,108) and the capital and reserves are (£210,635) (2023 - (£236,948)).

Novalis Professional Services Limited has the same registered office as Novalis Trust.

9 STOCKS

	2024 £	2023 £
Goods for resale	300	962

10 DEBTORS

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors		2,375,625	1,592,901
Other debtors		44,472	38,414
Prepayments		268,604	84,190
Amounts owed by group undertakings	18	237,059	234,348
		2,925,760	1,949,853
Less non-current portion	18	(237,059)	(234,348)
		2,688,701	1,715,505

NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

11 CREDITORS - due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	503,495	173,095
Taxes and social security costs	281,839	256,045
Accruals and deferred income	3,986,571	3,679,003
Other creditors	216,323	393,818
	<u>4,988,228</u>	<u>4,504,158</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income is £3,745,041 (2023 - £3,505,434) in relation to deferred income on school fees invoiced in advance.

12 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Leases

The total of future minimum lease payments is as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Not later than one year	13,260	27,959
Later than one year but not later than five years	7,312	29,007
	<u>20,572</u>	<u>56,966</u>

The amount of non-cancellable operating lease payments recognised as an expense during the year was £41,091 (2023 - £18,916).

13 SHARE CAPITAL

The charity does not have a share capital as it is limited by guarantee. Each of the members is a guarantor to the extent of £1 in the event of the company being wound up whilst they are members, or within one year of them ceasing to be members in respect of debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

14 FUNDS

	At 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfer in the year £	At 31 August 2024 £
General fund	14,030,578	14,496,926	(14,716,274)	57,631	13,868,861
Restricted fund	90,547	1,164	(1,714)	-	89,997
Revaluation reserve	6,918,586	-	-	(57,631)	6,860,955
	<u>21,039,711</u>	<u>14,498,090</u>	<u>(14,717,988)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,819,813</u>

15 RESTRICTED FUNDS

	At 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfer in the year £	At 31 August 2024 £
Muunde donations	11,570	3,180	(2,672)	-	12,078
Paradise House	77,726	-	(1,714)	-	76,012
Other	1,251	656	-	-	1,907
	<u>90,547</u>	<u>3,836</u>	<u>(4,386)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>89,997</u>

16 INDEMNITY INSURANCE

The charity has paid insurance premiums to indemnify the charity from any loss arising from neglect or defaults of Trustees or staff.

NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17 PENSION COMMITMENTS

Defined contribution:

The company operates defined contribution schemes for its non-teaching employees. The assets are held separately from those of the company in independently administered funds, and the amount charged to the SOFA for the year was £302,484 (2023 - £335,389).

Defined benefit:

The Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme. The regulations under which the TPS operates are the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 1997 as amended. These regulations apply to teachers in schools and other educational establishments in England and Wales maintained by local authorities, to teachers in many independent and voluntary-aided schools, and to teachers and lecturers in establishments of further and higher education. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers or lecturers and from 1 January 2007 automatic too for teachers or lecturers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract. Teachers and lecturers are able to opt out of TPS. TPS is run in such a way that the Charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities. Therefore, the charge in the SOFA of £379,877 (2023 - £233,043) is the amount payable in the year as the Charity accounts for the TPS as if it were a defined contribution scheme.

Although teachers and lecturers are employed by various bodies, their retirement and other pension benefits, including annual increases payable under the Pensions (Increase) Acts are, as provided for in the Superannuation Act 1972, paid out of monies provided by Parliament. Under the unfunded TPS, teachers' contributions on a 'pay-as-you-go' basis, and employers' contributions, are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Act. The Teachers' Pension Regulations require an annual account, the Teachers' Pension Account, to be kept of receipts and expenditure (including the cost of pensions' increases). From 1 April 2001, the Account will be credited with a real rate of return (in excess of price increases and currently set at 3.0%), which is equivalent to assuming that the balance in the Account is invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

Not less than every four years, with a supporting interim valuation in between, the Government Actuary ('GA'), using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Contributions are assessed in two parts. First, a standard contribution is determined. This is the contribution, expressed as a percentage of the salaries of teachers and lecturers in service or entering service during the period over which the contribution rate applies, which if it were paid over the entire active service period of these teachers and lecturers would broadly defray the costs of benefits in respect of that service. Secondly, a supplementary contribution is payable if, as a result of the actuarial investigation, it is found that accumulated liabilities of the Account for benefits to past and present teachers, are not fully covered by standard contributions to be paid in future and by the notional fund built up from past contributions.

The last valuation of the TPS related to the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The GA's report of March 2024 revealed that the total aggregate scheme liabilities of the TPS amounted to £278.8 billion. The value of the aggregate scheme assets was £Nil. The assumed real rate of return is 2.55% in excess of prices and 3.55% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 1.45%. The assumed gross rate of return is 3.55%.

Employer contributions are currently paid at a rate of 28.6% (this increased in April 2024 from 23.6%). Employers also pay a charge equivalent to 0.08% of pensionable salary costs to cover administration expenses.

NOVALIS TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income before other recognised gains and losses	(219,898)	286,086
Net interest	(57,542)	(27,165)
Depreciation	901,717	808,925
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(8,509)	(8,401)
Decrease in stock	662	-
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(975,907)	1,570,909
Increase in creditors	483,267	173,341
	<u>123,790</u>	<u>2,800,695</u>

19 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, Novalis Trust provided management services to its subsidiary, Novalis Professional Services Limited on an arms-length basis for £22,811 (2023 - £25,689). At the balance sheet date, the charity was owed £262,748 (2023 - £234,348) by Novalis Professional Services Limited. Interest is not charged on the loan as it is immaterial and there are no fixed repayment terms.

Maureen Smith, a Trustee of Novalis Trust, is an independent consultant for MAS Educational Consultancy Ltd. An expense of £9,000 (2023 - £9,450) was recognised for services rendered in the year to 31 August 2024.

Elizabeth Buckland, a Trustee of Novalis Trust, has a daughter who currently has a zero-hour contract with Novalis Trust to operate in the training department, earning a salary of £2,580.

Daniel Walton, a Trustee of Novalis Trust, has a spouse Rachael Walton who is currently employed by Novalis Trust at WMS and CCS in the admissions team, as a recognised conflict of interest Daniel Walton, it has been agreed that they would not be involved in any decision directly affecting his wife's role as an employee.