

FARMLINK EDUCATION LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024



Company registration number: 5994599

Registered charity number: 1120308

FARMLINK EDUCATION LIMITED

FARMLINK EDUCATION LIMITED

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2024

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 August 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and 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).

Our Purposes and Activities

The Charity's objects are to advance the education of school children in the subjects of farming, food production, biodiversity, the rural economy and the study of the environment and ecology generally.

In the year the charity aimed to further its objectives by undertaking a programme of school visits through the FarmLink educational programme. The visits are delivered by our partner farms.

This enables schools to deliver the areas of the national curriculum relating to farming, food production, biodiversity, the rural economy and the study of the environment and ecology through a series of visits.

Achievements and performance

During this period, we engaged with 28,404 children with 8,567 getting on to the farms. This shows a good increase from the previous year. The number of host farms continues to go up which has increased our area of coverage throughout our catchment. Whilst the number has increased it has been difficult to fill all the tours for our new farms, but this should be a snowball effect and we are hopeful this will improve in future periods.

As well as the delivery of the programme we have completed the renovation of the kitchen to make it more like a classroom set up which will be more suitable for our needs. The work was completed in February ready for the Summer and Spring term.

We employed a Devon County representative whilst, she has engaged well with the schools and having somebody on the ground in Devon has made a huge difference to the engagement with schools.

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2024 cont.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake and confirm all the Charity's activities are undertaken to further charitable purposes for public benefit.

Financial Review

At 31 August 2024 the Charity had net assets of £51,042, of which £nil were restricted funds.

The Charity's main sources of funding in the period were:

- donations, totalling £50,000, from partner farms;
- fees charged to schools for visits of £10,717;
- donation in kind from Packington Farm of a seconded member of staff;
- restricted donation of £10,000 from Bridgewater Agricultural Society; and
- unrestricted donations of, £5,000 from The Spielman Trust, £5,000 from the CLA, £5,000 from New Quadrant Partners, £5,000 from The Bristol Port Company, and £1,500 from The Pixella Trust.

The Trustees are confident the Charity is financially secure to deliver its programme of activities for 2025/26.

Investment policy

As reserves are currently at a relatively low level, all funds are currently held in a bank current account. The Trustees are investigating investing any surplus funds in an instant access deposit account in a UK bank that provides a reasonable rate of interest.

Reserves policy & Going Concern

The Charity's reserves policy is to hold £100,000 in liquid unrestricted funds (free reserves) which represents approximately 8 months total expenditure at 2023/24 annual levels. This would enable the Charity time to seek alternative funding if its current sources of funding ceased. At 31 August 2024, the liquid unrestricted reserves were £40,813, which represents 3.5 months of expenditure.

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

FARMLINK EDUCATION LIMITED

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2024 cont.

Plans for Future Periods

During the course of this period, it became clear that charging for the schools for each visit was very labour intensive and due to the subsidies, some from the government some of the farms were taking their own bookings. As a result, we decided to not to charge per visit but have a membership fee. This would be set at a £1 per pupil attending the school with a minimum fee of £100 and a maximum fee of £250.

We also hope to continue o engage further with pupils in Devon and Cornwall.

Reference and Administrative Information

Name & Charity Number:

Farmlink Education Limited:

Registered Charity No: 1120308

Company No: 5994599

Registered Office:

Our Offices 4
Yeowood Farm
Iwood, Wrington
BS40 5NU

Trustees:

Mr John Alvis MBE
Sir David Wills Bt
Mrs Mary James MBE
Mr Brian Kirkup
Mr Mark Pooley
Mrs Jeanette Read
Mr Nick Green
Mr Tom Coles
Mr Richard Cooksley

Bankers:

Nat West Bank
Wells Branch
Wells BA5 2AD

Solicitors:

Burges Salmon
One Glass Wharf
Bristol BS2 0ZX

Independent Examiner:

Mr M J Maneely FCCA

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2024 cont.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The company was established under a Memorandum and Articles of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The company was incorporated on 10 November 2006 and commenced its activities on 1 April 2007. The company was registered as a charity on 27 July 2007.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law.

The Trustees regularly review the skills and experience base of its board to reflect the needs of the organisation. Induction is seen as a key element in retaining and supporting Trustees.

Trustee Induction and Training

New Trustees are given clear advice and support in relation to their obligations. All relevant documentation is made available including details of its resourcing, the current financial position as set out in the latest set of accounts and information about future plans and the strategic development of the Charity.

Day to day management

The trustees have delegated the day-to-day management of the Charity to the Chief Executive, Tim Ledbury. The Chief Executive reports formally to the Trustees at the quarterly Trustees' meetings and as required between Trustees meetings.

Key Personnel

Tim Ledbury Chief Executive

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2024 cont.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees (who are also the directors of Farmlink Education Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- c) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- d) state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- e) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 charity and the group and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In accordance with company law, as the charity's Trustees, we certify that:

- So far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's Independent Examiner is unaware; and
- As the Trustees of the charity we have taken all steps that ought to have been taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's Independent Examiner is aware of that information.

MARK POOLEY

Signed on behalf of the Trustees: (Mark Pooley)

Date: 11 MARCH 2025

FARMLINK EDUCATION LIMITED**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Year 2024	Total Year 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE					
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	108,244	15,000	123,244	133,763
Fees from Schools		10,717	-	10,717	-
Other income		-	-	-	100
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL INCOME		118,961	15,000	133,961	133,863
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenditure on:					
Costs of raising funds		1,750	-	1,750	3,500
Charitable activities:					
Farm and school visits	3	131,072	10,000	141,072	136,133
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		132,822	10,000	142,822	139,633
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		(13,861)	5,000	(8,861)	(5,770)
Transfers		5,000	(5,000)	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement in funds for the year		(8,861)	-	(8,861)	(5,770)
Reconciliation of funds for the year					
Total funds brought forward		59,903	-	59,903	65,673
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds carried forward		51,042	-	51,042	59,903
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these accounts.

FARMLINK EDUCATION LIMITED**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024****Company number: 5994599**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible fixed assets	7	1,227	-
Tangible fixed assets	8	9,002	220
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		10,229	220
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	9	7,466	-
Cash at bank and in hand		36,016	61,952
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		43,482	61,952
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	10	(2,669)	(2,269)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		40,813	59,683
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET ASSETS		51,042	59,903
		<hr/>	<hr/>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:			
Restricted funds	11	-	-
Unrestricted funds	12	51,042	59,903
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	13	51,042	59,903
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The Trustees are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- i. ensuring that the company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- ii. preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

FARMLINK EDUCATION LIMITED

**BALANCE SHEET (continued)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024**

Company number: 5994599

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on 06/03/2024, and are signed on their behalf by:

MARK POOLEY

**MARK POOLEY
TRUSTEE**

Date: 11MARCH 2025

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these accounts.

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees are of the opinion that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

c) Income

Donations and grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable and are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Donations in kind of services, including the secondment of staff, are accounted for as income at an estimate of the value to the charity of the services received. An equal amount is accounted for the services in expenditure.

Investment income is included when receivable.

d) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. They include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. They are allocated to the activity to which they relate.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. As the charity has only one activity, all costs are allocated against the charitable activity.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (continued)****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)****e) Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows.

Equipment – 4 years

Classroom – 7 years

f) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds – these are unrestricted general funds that have been earmarked by the trustees to be used for specific purposes in accordance within the charitable objects

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Year 2024 £	Year 2023 £
<u>Unrestricted</u>		
Donations from Partner Farms	50,000	47,000
Spielman Charitable Trust	5,000	5,000
Dartington Cattle Breeders Trust	7,000	2,000
Nisbet Trust	-	8,100
The Country Land and Business Association	5,000	-
North Somerset Agricultural Society	1,000	-
Ninevh Charitable Trust	-	5,000
The Bristol Port Company	5,000	5,000
Yeovil Agricultural Society	-	10,000
New Quadrant Partners	5,000	5,000
The Pixella Trust	1,500	1,500
Other donations less than £1,000	1,352	7,771
<i>Gifts in kind</i>		
Packington Farm – Seconded staff	26,612	26,612
Independent examiner's fees	780	780
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	108,244	123,763
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES (continued)	Year 2024 £	Year 2023 £
<u>Restricted</u>		
Bridgwater Agricultural Society (delivery in Somerset)	10,000	10,000
Pople Charitable Trust – Kitchen Classroom	5,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	15,000	10,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	123,244	133,763
	<hr/>	<hr/>
3. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Year 2024 £	Year 2023 £
<u>Charitable Activities – Farm and School visits</u>		
Staff costs	112,866	100,020
Delivery of farm visits	15,137	14,008
Subsidising bus costs of schools	2,000	2,100
Office and administration costs	6,018	12,890
Kitchen classroom expenses	720	2,205
Depreciation	1,720	673
Amortisation	613	-
Accountancy fees	1,218	3,457
Independent examiner's fees	780	780
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	141,072	136,133
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Expenditure includes restricted staff costs of £10,000 (2023 - £10,000). All other expenditure was unrestricted expenditure.

4. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	Year 2024 £	Year 2023 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	1,720	676
Amortisation	613	-
Independent examiner	780	780
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

5. EMPLOYEES AND STAFF COSTS	Year 2024	Year 2023
Staff costs were as follows:	£	£
Employed staff	61,469	48,145
Seconded staff	26,612	26,612
Self-employed consultants	24,785	25,263
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	112,866	100,020
	<hr/>	<hr/>

No employee earned £60,000 p.a. or more.

The average number of employees during the period:	Year 2024	Year 2023
	No	No
Farm and School visits	2	2
Administration	2	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The charity Trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil), neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2022: £nil). No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

There were no related party transactions during the year.

7. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Website £
COST	
Additions	1,840
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	1,840
	<hr/>
AMORTISATION	
Charge for year	613
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	613
	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE at 31 August 2024	1,227
	<hr/>

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

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £	Classroom £	Total £
COST			
At 01 September 2023	39,085	24,164	63,249
Additions	-	10,502	10,502
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	39,085	34,666	73,751
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
DEPRECIATION			
At 01 September 2023	38,865	24,164	63,029
Charge for year	220	1,500	1,720
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	39,085	25,664	64,749
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE AT 31 AUGUST 2024	-	9,002	9,002
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE AT 31 AUGUST 2023	220	-	220
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

9. DEBTORS

	Year 2024 £	Year 2023 £
Trade debtors	6,540	-
Other debtors	926	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7,466	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

10. CREDITORS

	Year 2024 £	Year 2023 £
Accruals	-	1,968
Other creditors	2,669	301
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,669	2,269
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance B/F £	Income £	Expend. £	Transfers £	Balance C/F £
Delivery fund					
Somerset	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Kitchen Classroom	-	5,000	-	(5,000)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	15,000	(10,000)	(5,000)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Delivery Fund Somerset

The delivery fund was funded by a donation from Bridgwater Agricultural Society to fund Farm and School visits in the County of Somerset.

Kitchen Classroom

This fund was funded by a donation from the Pople Charitable Trust to be spent on the improvements to the Kitchen Classroom at Lower Stock Farm. As the capital expenditures was incurred on the farm in the year, the restriction has been satisfied, and the fund balance has been transferred to unrestricted funds.

12. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance B/F £	Income £	Expend. £	Transfers £	Balance C/F £
General funds	59,903	118,961	(132,822)	5,000	51,042
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

13. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash at bank & in hand £	Other net current assets £	Total £
General funds	10,229	36,016	4,797	51,042
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Farmlink Education Limited ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also 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 Company 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 your charity's accounts as 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

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 Company 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.

Signed: M J MANEELY

Name: Mr M J Maneely FCCA

Address: 11 Windsor Court, Victoria Terrace, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 4LJ

Date: 26 JUNE 2025