

CITY UNITED LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1121305

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04834723
Registered	2007-10-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	10 Warwick House Edward Street Birmingham B1 2RX
Phone	01213280547
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Activities

Objects: 3.1 THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR HEALTHY RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS.3.2 TO DEVELOP THE CAPACITY AND SKILLS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY OF ASTON IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY ARE BETTER ABLE TO IDENTIFY, AND HELP MEET, THEIR NEEDS AND TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN SOCIETY.

Activities: Our vision is to support and guide children and young people, aged between 6 & 25 to make and construct positive changes to their day to day lives. This is done through Youth Work, Education, Mentoring & Coaching

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** ASTON, BIRMINGHAM
- Birmingham City
- Sandwell
- Solihull
- Walsall
- Wolverhampton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£937,959	£608,446	£495,866	13
2024-03-31	£536,501	£423,534	£166,353	9
2023-03-31	£371,877	£396,989	-	-
2022-03-31	£413,380	£444,283	-	-
2021-03-31	£422,046	£392,197	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adam John Simcox		2020-09-21
Barbara Jane Scrivens		2018-01-26
Deborah O'Connor		2019-05-16
JANETTE PLUMMER		

CITY UNITED LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1121305

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04834723 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1121305

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
City United Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10 to 11
Cash Flow Statement	12
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	13
Notes to the Financial Statements	14 to 19

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 Vision

We believe that all children and young people should be able to feel safe, empowered to be happy and successful, and encouraged to follow their dreams.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide support and guide young people. This is achieved through dedicated youth work, bespoke education, mentoring, and coaching, all delivered within a nurturing environment by our team of highly trained, compassionate staff who genuinely care about the well-being and success of every child.

Our aims

Through our independent school, City United Academy, we provide a safe, healing, and deeply nurturing educational provision. We are specifically designed for young people whose learning pathway has been disrupted or who have endured trauma related to previous school experiences. We aim to thoughtfully accommodate the complex academic and well-being needs of those who have faced significant difficulties in mainstream education, particularly those with coexisting Special Educational Needs (SEN).

Our dedicated, highly skilled, and compassionate team specializes in providing the individualised support required for our students to find their own self-identity and truly flourish. We cultivate an environment where every young person feels profoundly secure, valued, and happy.

We are committed to creating a genuinely enjoyable and empowering learning experience where every student can gently overcome the challenges they have faced along their educational journey. Our shared values-re-engage, inspire, and nurture-guide us in maximizing our young people's outcomes, ensuring they step into adulthood feeling confident and resilient.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Our objectives

In alignment with the Charity Commission's public benefit guidelines, this year we strategically prioritised objectives designed to instil profound self-sufficiency and life mastery in our young people. Our central focus has been on empowering students to cultivate deep confidence in their own abilities (self-efficacy). This empowerment is instrumental in fostering a resilient, positive outlook, leading directly to significantly lower incidences of stress and measurable reductions in anxiety. Ultimately, these foundational objectives have been crucial in establishing robust self-efficacy and high self-esteem, preparing our young people for future success.

Our programmes of work are fundamentally designed to promote safe and healthy relationships, ensuring no young person becomes unnecessarily disadvantaged or unsafe. We recognised that many of our young people have experienced a damaging 'revolving door' of services, often devoid of continuity and stability.

To combat these systemic difficulties, specific, focused objectives were established. The Charity adapted its programmes to directly improve outcomes for our most vulnerable young people and further enhance their essential life skills. This year, the effectiveness of these programmes has been significantly enhanced through targeted professional training provided to our staff, deepening their capacity to support these complex needs.

The impact of these enhanced programmes is specifically designed to improve physical health problems and foster better mental health.

The well-being of our dedicated team is recognised as foundational to our success and has always been of the utmost importance. The Board of Trustees and the leadership team relentlessly pursue the following core objectives:

- Comprehensive Well-being Support: Providing robust and accessible well-being support to all staff members.
- Empowering Voices: Cultivating an environment where every individual's voice is valued and heard concerning matters of safety and well-being.
- Operational Flexibility: Offering maximum flexibility in working arrangements wherever operationally possible.
- Maintaining Stability: Prioritising stability by committing to the objective of avoiding any job losses.

Since our successful Ofsted inspection last year, the City United Academy team has grown immeasurably stronger. We have capitalized on this foundation by enriching our staff with rigorous additional training and successfully navigating shared challenges (adversity). This collective growth has solidified our capacity to expertly address the increasingly varying and complex needs of our students.

The team's work continues to provide young people with the paramount opportunity to succeed in education. Recognising that many of our students have endured significant trauma, particularly trauma stemming from difficult school experiences, it remains profoundly imperative that they receive a therapeutic and nurturing environment. Our commitment extends beyond merely closing educational gaps; we provide a place where every young person instantly feels a deep sense of acceptance and genuine belonging, allowing them to heal and truly thrive.

The City United team possesses a profound understanding of pupils' varying and complex special educational needs (SEN). We deliberately engineer an environment where feeling safe, achieving learning goals, and having a secure sense of belonging actively dismantles barriers to learning, empowering our young people to overcome past adversity.

The team has successfully continued to build exceptionally strong, trusted relationships with the entire school cohort, characterised by mutual respect. This mutual respect is fundamental, as it effectively diminishes barriers to both social inclusion and academic progress.

Crucially, we have been able to increase the involvement of parents and carers in our work, fostering trusted partnerships that reinforce the progress made by our young people.

As recognised in our last Ofsted report, the team consistently establishes a deep foundation of mutual respect and trust between the service users and staff. This foundation is key to helping young people develop the crucial life skills and confidence needed to successfully transition to the next stage of their lives.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Following the recommendation from Ofsted to the Department for Education to extend the academy's cohort to fifty young people, which strategically supports future revenue growth, we have significantly enhanced our educational provision.

We have successfully continued to strengthen and widen our local authority reach, actively promoting our specialised offer to new regions. To date, we maintain robust working partnerships with our core local area authorities, and have successfully expanded our collaboration to include several key regional and distance partners across the west midlands.

Crucially, we are now able to offer young people the unprecedented opportunity to join us for a dedicated sixth form provision. This expansion not only allows new students, many of whom are experiencing a secure, accepting, and structured school environment for the first time in their educational journey. It also provides significant benefits for our existing cohort. They now have a longer duration to achieve their academic goals in a familiar environment, alleviating the significant anxiety often associated with transitioning to a new college or external setting.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

Charity projects

Building on previous successes, City United has continued its core goal of improving life skills, notably by supporting the necessity of a healthy diet within a tight budget. The preceding lifestyle project successfully concluded with young people forming positive relationships, demonstrably improving their self-esteem, and greatly increasing vital life skills for a more secure future.

Despite not receiving any external charitable funding this year, the Trust has maintained its commitment to our young people within the Academy. We have successfully integrated and built upon the essential skills and positive behaviours initially developed through our charitable programmes, ensuring continuity and maximising the long-term impact on our students' lives.

Academic Achievements

It is widely recognised that a young person's emotional health and well-being profoundly influence their cognitive development, learning trajectory, physical and social health, and ultimately, their mental resilience in adulthood.

At City United Academy, we are fundamentally committed to promoting every young person's well-being to ensure they can achieve their full, unique potential. Our entire approach is dedicated to reducing the negative impact of trauma experiences and actively supporting positive mental and physical health outcomes.

This commitment is realised through a deep focus on understanding the pervasive impact of trauma and providing targeted support to affected young people. Consequently, we have engineered an inclusive, therapeutic, and intrinsically safe environment.

Our educational offer is meticulously designed not only to enhance academic abilities-allowing young people to be competitive in the world of work-but also to cultivate a foundational sense of belonging, transparency, and active collaboration. City United Academy continues to offer a vital life skills programme alongside its core academic pathways of GCSE and A Level qualifications, ensuring development is comprehensive and future-focused.

Our organisational expertise has expanded significantly, enabling us to now effectively offer an Early Years and Primary curriculum tailored for our secondary-age students who require foundational learning. We recognize that for many of our young people, achieving literacy and numeracy begins with revisiting these crucial first steps. This provision delivers a play-based and focused learning curriculum within a physically and emotionally safe environment. It is meticulously designed to teach the absolute foundations of learning, ensuring that every student, regardless of their age, has the opportunity to securely build the educational base they need to succeed.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Strategic Reinvestment of Revenue

All fee-derived revenue has been rigorously reinvested into the organisation to guarantee the continuous enhancement of our services and infrastructure. A significant portion of this strategic reinvestment has been allocated to Human Capital, emphasising the value we place on our team:

- Talent Acquisition: The employment of additional, specialized, and highly qualified staff to substantially enrich our educational and support provision.
- Talent Retention: The initiation of proactive strategies to retain our existing, experienced, and skilled personnel, including the implementation of comprehensive wage reviews and the introduction of medical cover.
- Professional Development: The provision of specialised, targeted training courses for our current staff to continually deepen their expertise and critical skills.

Infrastructure & Learning Environment

Addressing urgent, overdue repairs on the building and completing internal reconstruction to create new specialised classrooms.

A significant refurbishment of IT stocks to ensure up-to-date technology for learning.

The introduction of specialised 'pods' (quiet teaching spaces) to facilitate focused one-to-one teaching scenarios and enhance learning outcomes for our young people.

Financial Resilience

Building up surplus funds in the bank account to strategically cover the financial requirements of the year ahead and facilitate further investment to improve the overall service provided to our young people.

The organisation currently categorises its income into three main streams:

1. Direct funding for education services for students at the Academy. This is either through arrangement with Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) or through Local Authority Special Educational Needs Services. All funding received through this stream is used for educational purposes.
2. Restricted funds for charity projects obtained through application. All funding secured through this stream is used on specific projects that the charity runs over finite periods of time. Funding can be to cover the whole cost of a project or part of it, with some grants being combined to cover different delivery aspects of a project. Generous funding from BBC's Children in Need has supported several crucial projects over the last few years.
3. Unrestricted funds through donations from charitable trust. Unrestricted funds are used to supplement educational and community services that City United Limited provides. Examples can be one off costs, on-going operational costs or additional costs incurred from the educational service or community projects. These funds are vital to the work that we carry out within our community and allow us to adapt to the changing needs of our young people as we see best.

As a charity, City United Limited is exempt from tax on income and gains provided these are used for educational and charitable purposes in line with our charitable aims. Our charitable status entitles us to an 80% reduction on our business rates on the property we occupy for charitable purposes. The financial benefits we receive through these tax exemptions assist the charity indirectly to carry out its educational and community projects.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Investment policy

Our investment strategy prioritises the continuous enhancement of the physical and digital environment to optimize learning and safety. We have made significant capital investments in the academy's infrastructure, including major resources dedicated to cutting-edge IT equipment.

Crucially, we have invested in upgrading our internet connectivity to the highest available fibre standard to ensure that lessons are never interrupted by technical issues or poor WiFi performance. This enhanced digital infrastructure is further secured by the implementation of high-specification malware protection and robust firewalls.

To maximise individual learning opportunities and equity, we have also invested in upgraded, high-specification laptops for every young person within the cohort. Staff training remains a strategic priority, with a strong emphasis on continuous professional development (CPD) being prevalent across all departments.

We have invested in the procurement of high-quality external centres for physical activity, thereby guaranteeing students regular access to premium facilities and promoting a consistent, high standard of physical health engagement.

Reserve's policy

The Board of Trustees consistently monitors the charity's requirements for financial reserves in light of the main operational risks. Our established policy previously targeted unrestricted funds (not committed or invested in fixed assets) to cover 3 to 6 months of expenditure.

Through diligent management and effective fiscal strategies, the Board and leadership team have not only successfully maintained this policy but have significantly strengthened our financial resilience. We now hold at least 6 to 9 months of expenditure in reserve.

This robust position ensures ongoing sustainability. The Board continues to enforce stringent controls on costs as a key strategy for delivering sustained growth and providing stability for the future of our young people.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

FUTURE PLANS

Moving forward, our strategic focus will centre on achieving a critical balance: maintaining the excellence of the charity's current provisions and services while ensuring the long-term financial sustainability and resilience of the organisation. A key priority is the proactive enhancement of relationships with our newly acquired local authority partners.

The team is implementing a strategy of measured and sustainable growth, working diligently towards securing the maximum number of young people while ensuring the uncompromising quality of our provision is maintained at all times. Furthermore, City United is actively seeking to secure productive partnerships with local vocational providers to strategically enhance and diversify the services available to our young people.

Our strategic restructuring has allowed for the natural creation of a highly bespoke and comprehensive curriculum. This curriculum now offers an unprecedented range of provision, from the foundational elements necessary for young people who are many years behind their peers, up to sophisticated enrichment opportunities at the Sixth Form level. Crucially, the introduction of the Sixth Form includes the establishment of strategic partnerships to facilitate high-quality apprenticeships and vocational pathways. This wide curricular scope is supported by the addition of highly skilled practitioners who possess specialised experience in these various areas, ensuring a seamless, trauma-informed transition for young people as they progress through each stage of their learning journey.

The Charity is proactively focused on revenue protection. We are continually monitoring and taking conscious steps to mitigate risk and secure the long-term financial health of the academy. Adam Simcox, an independent financial advisor in the private sector, continues to support the Board of Trustees to stay strong by providing financial advice and guidance, throughout the year.

Our strategic development has successfully concluded our transition into a specialist educational setting. We now offer robust, trauma-informed provision equipped to fully accommodate young people with complex needs, specifically including Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and severe trauma-related barriers to learning. This expertise ensures we meet the diverse needs of our cohort and deliver comprehensive, tailored support.

We uphold the principle of 'hard work + aspirations = success' by consistently investing in formal and informal educational support designed to build resilience and capabilities. Our mission is to leave no child behind, meaning our dedicated focus remains exclusively on supporting disadvantaged children, young people, and their families.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal form and governing document

The organisation is a charity limited by guarantee, incorporated on 16th July 2003 and registered as a charity on 19th October 2007. The organisation was established under a Memorandum of Association that sets out the objectives and the powers of the charitable association and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the organisation being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid during the year.

New Board members are appointed by existing Board of Trustees. We invite senior business people from our local community to consider joining the Board of Trustees and also encourage our young people to apply for positions on our Board.

The Board wants to maximise its effectiveness and to this end it has established the following required skills and experience to be present in its composition:

- A Trustee with a social work background
- A Trustee with significant education experience (previously held a position of Head Teacher a school)
- A Trustee with a financial background
- At least one male and one female Trustee

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

City United Limited (Registered number: 04834723)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04834723 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1121305

Registered office

10 Warwick House
Edward Street
Birmingham
B1 2RX

Trustees

Mrs J Plummer
Ms B Scrivens
Mrs D O'Connor
Mr A J Simcox

Independent Examiner

Mr G J Rummens FCCA
V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 15 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of City United Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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 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.

Mr G J Rummens FCCA

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

15 December 2025

City United Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities	2				
Charitable activities		<u>937,959</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>937,959</u>	<u>536,501</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	3				
Charitable activities		<u>608,446</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>608,446</u>	<u>423,534</u>
NET INCOME		329,513	-	329,513	112,967
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>166,353</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,353</u>	<u>53,386</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>495,866</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>495,866</u></u>	<u><u>166,353</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	22,932	-	22,932	20,993
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	185,346	-	185,346	44,048
Cash at bank and in hand		389,999	-	389,999	153,895
		<u>575,345</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>575,345</u>	<u>197,943</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(75,119)	-	(75,119)	(17,860)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>500,226</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>500,226</u>	<u>180,083</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		523,158	-	523,158	201,076
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	11	(27,292)	-	(27,292)	(34,723)
NET ASSETS					
		<u>495,866</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>495,866</u>	<u>166,353</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	13			495,866	166,353
TOTAL FUNDS					
				<u>495,866</u>	<u>166,353</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

City United Limited (Registered number: 04834723)

Balance Sheet - continued

31 March 2025

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 15 December 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

City United Limited

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	252,138	111,821
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>252,138</u>	<u>111,821</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(9,584)	-
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(9,584)</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan repayments in year		(6,450)	(5,469)
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(6,450)</u>	<u>(5,469)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>236,104</u>	<u>106,352</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>153,895</u>	<u>47,543</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>389,999</u></u>	<u><u>153,895</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	329,513	112,967
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	7,645	6,998
Increase in debtors	(141,298)	(11,904)
Increase in creditors	56,278	3,760
Net cash provided by operations	<u>252,138</u>	<u>111,821</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.24	Cash flow	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	153,895	236,104	389,999
	<u>153,895</u>	<u>236,104</u>	<u>389,999</u>
Debt			
Debts falling due within 1 year	(5,470)	(981)	(6,451)
Debts falling due after 1 year	(34,723)	7,431	(27,292)
	<u>(40,193)</u>	<u>6,450</u>	<u>(33,743)</u>
Total	<u>113,702</u>	<u>242,554</u>	<u>356,256</u>

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.25	31.3.24
	Activity	£	£
Invoiced sales	Charitable activities	937,959	536,501
		<u>937,959</u>	<u>536,501</u>

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 4)	Totals
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	598,745	9,701	608,446
	<u>598,745</u>	<u>9,701</u>	<u>608,446</u>

4. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Other	Totals
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	5,527	4,174	9,701
	<u>5,527</u>	<u>4,174</u>	<u>9,701</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	7,645	6,998
	<u>7,645</u>	<u>6,998</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

7. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	367,230	244,356
Social security costs	30,573	17,928
Other pension costs	7,103	5,441
	<u>404,906</u>	<u>267,725</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Employees	13	9
	<u>13</u>	<u>9</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
£60,001 - £70,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2024	101,310	17,610	22,267	141,187
Additions	5,218	-	4,366	9,584
At 31 March 2025	<u>106,528</u>	<u>17,610</u>	<u>26,633</u>	<u>150,771</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2024	97,533	8,225	14,436	120,194
Charge for year	2,249	2,346	3,050	7,645
At 31 March 2025	<u>99,782</u>	<u>10,571</u>	<u>17,486</u>	<u>127,839</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2025	<u>6,746</u>	<u>7,039</u>	<u>9,147</u>	<u>22,932</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>3,777</u>	<u>9,385</u>	<u>7,831</u>	<u>20,993</u>

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Trade debtors	176,001	43,064
Other debtors	1,550	-
Prepayments	7,795	984
	<u>185,346</u>	<u>44,048</u>

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 12)	6,451	5,470
Social security and other taxes	11,024	6,913
VAT	52,157	-
Other creditors	1,787	1,277
Accrued expenses	3,700	4,200
	<u>75,119</u>	<u>17,860</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Bank loans (see note 12)	27,292	34,723
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

12. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank loans	6,451	5,470
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Amounts falling between one and two years:		
Bank loans - 1-2 years	6,451	5,470
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans - 2-5 years	19,352	16,408
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Bank loans more 5 yr by instal	1,489	12,845

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24	Net movement in funds	At
	£	£	31.3.25
			£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	166,353	329,513	495,866
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>166,353</u>	<u>329,513</u>	<u>495,866</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	937,959	(608,446)	329,513
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>937,959</u>	<u>(608,446)</u>	<u>329,513</u>

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	47,806	118,547	166,353
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	5,580	(5,580)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>53,386</u>	<u>112,967</u>	<u>166,353</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	536,501	(417,954)	118,547
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	-	(5,580)	(5,580)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>536,501</u>	<u>(423,534)</u>	<u>112,967</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	47,806	448,060	495,866
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	5,580	(5,580)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>53,386</u>	<u>442,480</u>	<u>495,866</u>

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,474,460	(1,026,400)	448,060
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	-	(5,580)	(5,580)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,474,460</u>	<u>(1,031,980)</u>	<u>442,480</u>

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

CITY UNITED LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1121305

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04834723 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1121305

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
City United Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8 to 9
Cash Flow Statement	10
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 17

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 Vision

We believe that all children and young people should be able to feel safe, empowered to be happy and successful, and encouraged to follow their dreams.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide support and guide young people aged 6 -25 to make and construct positive changes to their day-to-day lives. This is done through youth work, education, mentoring and coaching.

Our aims

Through our independent school, City United Academy, we aim to provide a safe, rounded educational provision for those young people whose learning pathway has taken a different route. We aim to accommodate the academic and well-being needs of those young people who have experienced difficulties in mainstream education or have coexisting conditions of special educational needs.

Our dedicated and highly skilled team provide the support needed to allow our students to find their own self-identity and flourish in an environment where they feel secure and happy. We aim to create an enjoyable learning experience in which every student can overcome the challenges they have faced along their educational journey. Our shared values of re-engage, inspire and nurture help us to maximise our young people's outcomes as they enter adulthood.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Our objectives

In line with the Charity Commission's public benefit guide, this year we prioritised our objectives around encouraging young people to become more self-sufficient in terms of their self-efficacy and life skills. Our objectives have centred around supporting young people becoming more confident in their abilities in order to adopt a more positive outlook and experience lower incidences of stress, reducing anxiety. These objectives have helped in fostering high self-efficacy and self-esteem in our young people.

Our programmes of work have aimed to promote safe and healthy relationships, avoiding any young person becoming unnecessarily disadvantaged or unsafe.

Our young people have experienced a revolving door of services throughout their lives which have been devoid of continuity. As such, specific objectives were put in place to combat the difficulties young people were facing.

The Charity adapted its programmes to improve outcomes for the most vulnerable young people and further enhance their life skills. The impact of the programmes were designed to improve health problems and mental health.

In addition, the Trust ensures the continuity of:

- Broadening the curriculum and the student choices at the academy.
- Developing our wellbeing and pastoral care
- Investing in our people so their practices can continue to have impact on the lives of the young people we work with.

The wellbeing of our team has always been of the utmost importance. The Board of Trustees and the leadership team persevere with their main objectives:

- Providing wellbeing support to all staff
- Providing an environment where everyone's voice counts on safety and wellbeing
- Offering flexibility as much as possible
- Avoiding any job losses

Following the successful Ofsted Report that recognised the impact of the work carried out by the team, The team have continued to provide young people with the opportunity to succeed in education. Many of the young people have experienced trauma, including school based trauma meaning it was even more imperative that they received a nurturing environment that would not just support with closing educational gaps but would offer a young person a place where they felt they belonged and would feel accepted and would thrive. At City United the Team understand pupils' varying and complex special educational needs and provides them with an environment where learning, feeling safe and having a sense of belonging support the young people to overcome barriers to learning.

The Team have continued to build strong relationships with the young people manifesting a mutual respect helping to diminish barriers to social exclusion and academic progress. Ofsted recognised that The Team build a mutual respect and trust between the service users and the team, which helps young people to develop crucial skills needed for the next stage of their lives.

Since Ofsted recommended to The Department for Education that the academy could extend their cohort of young people to fifty, which will help to increase revenue, we have been able to build our offer of provision and promote our offer to other authorities. To date we have been working with our local partners in Birmingham, Solihull and Sandwell in addition to Swindon and Brighton and Hove.

The accolade of a 'Good' Ofsted meant we were awarded the status of sixth form by The Department of Education. City United is now in its third year of sixth form. Many of the existing cohort of students have continued with their academic studies, alongside working with our local partners, who provide support for vocational courses. This has alleviated anxieties and pressures for parents, carers and young people knowing that they can access further education within the existing environment.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Activities for achieving objectives

Charity projects

Building on previous successes City United has continued their goal of improving life styles by supporting the need for a healthy diet within a tight budget.

The project concluded to a successful end with young people having formed positive relationships, improving their self-esteem and greatly increasing life skills for a better future.

Academic Achievements

It is widely recognised that a young person's emotional health and wellbeing influences their cognitive development and learning, as well as their physical and social health and their mental wellbeing in adulthood. As a school, City United Academy aims to promote every young person's wellbeing to ensure that they can reach their full potential. City United Academy strives to reduce the negative impact of trauma experiences and support mental and physical health outcomes. This is achieved through creating a focus on understanding the impact of trauma and supporting affected young people. Therefore we have created an inclusive, safe environment. The education offer is designed to not only enhance academic abilities so young people can be competitive in the world of work but offers a basic sense of belonging, transparency and active collaboration. City United Academy continues to offer a life skills programme alongside its core offer of GCSE studies and A level qualifications.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Current position

The procurement of new contracts with the local authority saw the start of a change in focus in the academy. The cohort of young people now entering the academy are presenting with very complex special educational needs. Along with the complex additional needs came an increase in fees. This increase enhanced revenue aiding recovery from financial hardship still hanging over the charity from the pandemic.

The increased revenue was reinvested back into the educational provision in the way of:

- Employment of additional, specialised, qualified staff.
- Plans to take measures to retain existing, experienced, skilled staff in the form of wage reviews and medical cover.
- Specialised training courses for existing staff to further enhance skills.
- Urgent, overdue repairs on the building.
- Internal reconstruction to building to create new specialised classrooms.
- Building up of surplus funds in the bank account to cover the year ahead and further investment to improve the service to our young people.

Principal funding sources

The organisation currently categorises its income into three main streams:

1. Direct funding for education services for students at the Academy. This is either through arrangement with Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) or through Local Authority Special Educational Needs Services. All funding received through this stream is used for educational purposes.

2. Restricted funds for charity projects obtained through application. All funding secured through this stream is used on specific projects that the charity runs over finite periods of time. Funding can be to cover the whole cost of a project or part of it, with some grants being combined to cover different delivery aspects of a project. Generous funding from BBC's Children in Need has supported several crucial projects over the last few years, and they continue to fund projects until the summer of this financial year.

3. Unrestricted funds through donations from charitable trust. Unrestricted funds are used to supplement educational and community services that City United Limited provides. Examples can be one off costs, on-going operational costs or additional costs incurred from the educational service or community projects. These funds are vital to the work that we carry out within our community and allow us to adapt to the changing needs of our young people as we see best.

As a charity, City United Limited is exempt from tax on income and gains provided these are used for educational and charitable purposes in line with our charitable aims. Our charitable status entitles us to an 80% reduction on our business rates on the property we occupy for charitable purposes. The financial benefits we receive through these tax exemptions assist the charity indirectly to carry out its educational and community projects.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Investment policy

The return of the charity to a position of surplus has enabled the Trustee's to formulate an investment policy considering emerging trends and opportunities. The organisation has again decided that investment in our team will provide the greatest benefit to the people we serve through the services we provide. Continuing Professional Development has been a priority for the independent school this year, to enable compliance with current teaching trends, legislation and improving the education service provided to the young people.

Reserve's policy

The Board of the charity continue to examine the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It maintains a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity, should be between 3 and 6 months of expenditure. The Board and the leadership team have worked hard to successfully maintain this reserve levels and to ensure its ongoing sustainability. The Board is maintaining stringent controls on costs as a key strategy for delivering sustained growth.

FUTURE PLANS

Moving forward the focus will be on maintaining the current provisions and services that the charity offers whilst ensuring the financial survival of the organisation. Plus enhancing relationships with the new business providers from local authorities. The team are gently working towards securing the maximum number of young people, whilst ensuring the quality of the provision is not compromised. City United is hoping to secure further partnerships with local vocational providers to enhance the service.

Plus, City United are planning to offer a bespoke curriculum to enhance the creative element of education, such as digital media and music. Discussions are being held with the local authorities to support the growth of the sixth form and parents are now requesting that the local authority continue to place their child with City United Academy, for their post 16 education, rather than place them at a local college. This will further sustain the funding for the academy.

City United Academy has started to invest in modifying the interior layout of the building to suit the changing requirements of the cohort. Further developments are planned to facilitate the special educational needs of the young people, which will mean further investment in building modifications.

The charity has already experienced the effects of public spending cuts and an economic downturn will inevitably affect revenue streams, fundraising opportunities and donations. The Trustees and senior leadership of the organisation will position the charity's funding strategy and expenditure in accordance with the risk model that has been created.

Adam Simcox, an independent financial advisor in the private sector, continues to support the Board of Trustees to stay strong by providing financial advice and guidance, throughout the year.

The academy now predominantly caters for children with special educational needs (SEN). We have established this position based on evidential need and following extensive consultations with parents, local secondary schools and the local authority. We are also responding to the demographic projections sourced by SENAR and public health that the city will experience increased levels of SEN amongst children over the next 10-years. Investments in staff training has been made and future plans are in progress to support the advancement of the additional training.

Our founding principle of 'hard work + aspirations = success' is maintained by investing in both targeted and open-access youth provision and by providing formal and informal educational support that builds resilience, capabilities and leaves no child behind. This means that we seek to maintain our key focus on disadvantaged children, young people and their families in all the key activities listed above.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal form and governing document

The organisation is a charity limited by guarantee, incorporated on 16th July 2003 and registered as a charity on 19th October 2007. The organisation was established under a Memorandum of Association that sets out the objectives and the powers of the charitable association and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the organisation being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid during the year.

New Board members are appointed by existing Board of Trustees. We invite senior business people from our local community to consider joining the Board of Trustees and also encourage our young people to apply for positions on our Board.

The Board wants to maximise its effectiveness and to this end it has established the following required skills and experience to be present in its composition:

- A Trustee with a social work background
- A Trustee with significant education experience (preferably previously held a position of Head Teacher at a school)
- A Trustee with a financial background
- At least one male and one female Trustee

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04834723 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1121305

Registered office

10 Warwick House
Edward Street
Birmingham
B1 2RX

Trustees

Mrs J Plummer
Ms B Scrivens
Mrs D O'Connor
Mr A J Simcox

Independent Examiner

Mr G J Rummens FCCA
V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of City United Limited ('the Company')

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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 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.

Mr G J Rummens FCCA

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

27 November 2024

City United Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities	3	536,501	-	536,501	370,947
Investment income	2	-	-	-	130
Other income		-	-	-	800
Total		<u>536,501</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>536,501</u>	<u>371,877</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities	4	417,954	5,580	423,534	386,609
Support Costs		-	-	-	10,380
Total		<u>417,954</u>	<u>5,580</u>	<u>423,534</u>	<u>396,989</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		118,547	(5,580)	112,967	(25,112)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		47,806	5,580	53,386	78,498
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>166,353</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>166,353</u></u>	<u><u>53,386</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	20,993	-	20,993	27,991
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	44,048	-	44,048	32,144
Cash at bank and in hand		153,895	-	153,895	47,543
		197,943	-	197,943	79,687
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(17,860)	-	(17,860)	(14,530)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		180,083	-	180,083	65,157
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		201,076	-	201,076	93,148
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	12	(34,723)	-	(34,723)	(39,762)
NET ASSETS					
		166,353	-	166,353	53,386
FUNDS					
	14				
Unrestricted funds				166,353	47,806
Restricted funds				-	5,580
TOTAL FUNDS					
				166,353	53,386

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

City United Limited (Registered number: 04834723)

Balance Sheet - continued

31 March 2024

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 November 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

City United Limited

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	111,821	(53,812)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>111,821</u>	<u>(53,812)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(9,990)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		-	800
Interest received		-	130
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>(9,060)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan repayments in year		<u>(5,469)</u>	<u>(4,747)</u>
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(5,469)</u>	<u>(4,747)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>47,543</u>	<u>115,162</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>153,895</u></u>	<u><u>47,543</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	112,967	(25,112)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,998	6,833
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	-	(800)
Interest received	-	(130)
Increase in debtors	(11,904)	(19,799)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	3,760	(14,804)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>111,821</u>	<u>(53,812)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	47,543	106,352	153,895
	<u>47,543</u>	<u>106,352</u>	<u>153,895</u>
Debt			
Debts falling due within 1 year	(5,900)	430	(5,470)
Debts falling due after 1 year	(39,762)	5,039	(34,723)
	<u>(45,662)</u>	<u>5,469</u>	<u>(40,193)</u>
Total	<u>1,881</u>	<u>111,821</u>	<u>113,702</u>

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Deposit account interest	-	130
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Invoiced sales	536,501	351,144
Grants	-	19,803
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>536,501</u>	<u>370,947</u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 5) £	Totals £
Charitable activities	413,802	9,732	423,534
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance £	Other £	Totals £
Charitable activities	5,941	3,791	9,732
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	6,998	6,833
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	-	(800)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

8. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	244,356	240,723
Social security costs	17,928	17,011
Other pension costs	5,441	5,072
	<u>267,725</u>	<u>262,806</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.24	31.3.23
Employees	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	<u>101,310</u>	<u>17,610</u>	<u>22,267</u>	<u>141,187</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2023	96,274	5,097	11,825	113,196
Charge for year	<u>1,259</u>	<u>3,128</u>	<u>2,611</u>	<u>6,998</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>97,533</u>	<u>8,225</u>	<u>14,436</u>	<u>120,194</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2024	<u>3,777</u>	<u>9,385</u>	<u>7,831</u>	<u>20,993</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>5,036</u>	<u>12,513</u>	<u>10,442</u>	<u>27,991</u>

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Trade debtors	43,064	29,837
Prepayments	984	2,307
	<u>44,048</u>	<u>32,144</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 13)	5,470	5,900
Social security and other taxes	6,913	4,430
Other creditors	1,277	-
Accrued expenses	4,200	4,200
	<u>17,860</u>	<u>14,530</u>

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Bank loans (see note 13)	<u>34,723</u>	<u>39,762</u>

13. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank loans	<u>5,470</u>	<u>5,900</u>
Amounts falling between one and two years:		
Bank loans - 1-2 years	<u>5,470</u>	<u>5,900</u>
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans - 2-5 years	<u>16,408</u>	<u>17,728</u>
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Bank loans more 5 yr by instal	12,845	16,134

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	47,806	118,547	166,353
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	5,580	(5,580)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>53,386</u>	<u>112,967</u>	<u>166,353</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	536,501	(417,954)	118,547
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	-	(5,580)	(5,580)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>536,501</u>	<u>(423,534)</u>	<u>112,967</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,498	(30,692)	47,806
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	-	5,580	5,580
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>78,498</u>	<u>(25,112)</u>	<u>53,386</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	352,074	(382,766)	(30,692)
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	10,307	(4,727)	5,580
Learning Curve Group	9,496	(9,496)	-
	<u>19,803</u>	<u>(14,223)</u>	<u>5,580</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>371,877</u>	<u>(396,989)</u>	<u>(25,112)</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,498	87,855	166,353
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>78,498</u>	<u>87,855</u>	<u>166,353</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	888,575	(800,720)	87,855
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	10,307	(10,307)	-
Learning Curve Group	9,496	(9,496)	-
	<u>19,803</u>	<u>(19,803)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>908,378</u>	<u>(820,523)</u>	<u>87,855</u>

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

CITY UNITED LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1121305

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04834723 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1121305

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023
for
City United Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9 to 10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 16

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 Vision

We believe that all children and young people should be able to feel safe, empowered to be happy and successful, and encouraged to follow their dreams.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide support and guide young people aged 6 -25 to make and construct positive changes to their day-to-day lives. This is done through youth work, education, mentoring and coaching.

Our aims

Through our independent school, City United Academy, we aim to provide a safe, rounded educational provision for those young people whose learning pathway has taken a different route. We aim to accommodate the academic and well-being needs of those young people who have experienced difficulties in mainstream education or have a comorbidity of special educational needs.

Our dedicated and highly skilled team provide the support needed to allow our students to find their own self-identity and flourish in an environment where they feel secure and happy. We aim to create an enjoyable learning experience in which every student can overcome the challenges they have faced along their educational journey. Our shared values of re-engage, inspire and nurture help us to maximise our young people's outcomes as they enter adulthood.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Our objectives

In line with the Charity Commission's public benefit guide, this year we prioritised our objectives around encouraging young people to engage with the outside world again. Our objectives have centred around building positive relationships and fostering high self-efficacy and self-esteem in our young people.

Our programmes of work have aimed to promote safe and healthy relationships, avoiding any young person becoming unnecessarily disadvantaged or unsafe.

Our young people have experienced a revolving door of services throughout their lives which have been devoid of continuity. As such, specific objectives were put in place to combat the difficulties young people were facing following the pandemic:

- The charity stayed ready to adapt all community projects to be able to take place online, maintaining their value and reach but resumed their face to face engagement once it was safe to do so.
- Following the fall out of the Government reducing benefit top ups, the provision of food, clothing, toiletries, etc to those most in need, allowing participation/education to continue and mitigate unnecessary home pressures has continued.
- Minimise the impact of social isolation.

In addition, the team ensures the continuity of:

- Broadening the curriculum and the student choices that the students have at the academy.
- Developing our wellbeing and pastoral care.
- Investing in our people so their practices can continue to have impact on the lives of the young people we work with.

The wellbeing of our team has always been of the utmost importance. The Board of Trustees and the leadership team persevere with their main objectives:

- Provide wellbeing support to all staff
- Provide an environment where everyone's voice counts on safety and wellbeing
- Offer flexibility as much as possible
- Avoid any job losses

Following the successful Ofsted Report that recognised the impact of the work carried out by the team, The team have continued to provide young people with the opportunity to succeed in education. Some young people have previously missed a lot of school and significant gaps in their learning is now being identified. At City United the Team understand pupils' individual needs and provide strong guidance and support to overcome pupils' barriers to learning.

The Team have continued to build strong relationships with the young people manifested a mutual respect helping to diminish barriers to social exclusion and academic progress. Ofsted recognised The Team build a mutual respect and trust between the service users and the team, which helps young people to develop crucial skills needed for the next stage of their lives.

Since Ofsted recommended to The Department for Education that the academy could extend their cohort of young people to fifty, which will help to increase revenue, we have been able to build our offer of provision and promote our offer to other authorities.

Over a number of years we have evidenced that young people who use our services are not ready to move on to further education without the support of a key person. On most occasions, the young people drop out of further education due to the lack of equipment or poor mental health that is not addressed in their new setting. The accolade of a 'Good' Ofsted has meant we were awarded the status of sixth form by The Department of Education. City United has now been able to offer educational places to 16-18 year olds. To date, two young people have rejoined us following initially leaving City United in year 11. Both have now accessed work experience and are ready to take external examinations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Activities for achieving objectives

Charity projects

The projects returned to face to face activities which allowed the charity to build on positives from previous years and jump straight into what had worked well. The sessions achieved their goal of improving life styles by supporting the need for a healthy diet within a tight budget.

Participants were able to explore and some of the achievements were:

- Participants were able to create a healthy balanced meal using raw ingredients that they then ate in a family environment with a small group of their peers.
- Friendships were nurtured and flourish naturally.
- Created a sense of belonging and self-worth that participant's had lost or not experienced before.
- Modelling of conversation which supported the shared and common interests.
- Through the active engagement of the physical activity sessions, the Team and parent/carers saw a significant boost in self-esteem, the ability to control anxiety which was sometimes disabling some of the young people.

City United noted that Participants who were of a similar age began to form friendships. These friendships were nurtured and the sessions were able to help participants to understand the expectations in relationships, how some relationships can be toxic and one party can be exploited. The sessions filtered myths about different types of relationships such as family units and romantic relationships. This allowed the participants to safely explore the opportunity of forming trusting relationships and expand their circle of friends and make links to positive adults in their lives.

Academic Achievements

Attending school is a crucial protective factor to those young people experiencing multiple adverse childhood experiences, this is why the academy puts great importance and emphasis on school attendance as part of its comprehensive safeguarding measures. Support through charitable funding has extended the academic welfare officer and academic coach/mentor posts that assist in breaking down barriers to attending school and ensure that contextual safeguarding is applied to all students and young people that the charity works with.

For the 2022-23 academic year, City United Academy continued to offer Business and Citizenship, plus made an addition of Physical Education to its GCSE options to further enhance the choice and the curriculum offering at the school. This year students returned to sitting actual live examinations at their school.

It is widely recognised that a young person's emotional health and wellbeing influences their cognitive development and learning, as well as their physical and social health and their mental wellbeing in adulthood. As a school, CUA aims to promote every young person's wellbeing to ensure that they can reach their full potential.

CUA supports our young people's wellbeing through:

- **Broad PSHE Curriculum:** CUA are proud to offer young people a broad PSHE curriculum which incorporates a range of topics that contribute to a young person's wellbeing, these include healthy relationships, family support, health and personal safety, behaving to achieve, rights and responsibilities, factors that affect mental health, domestic abuse, sexual consent and support available to young people.

- **One to One Mentoring Sessions:** Our young people are offered one-to-one mentoring sessions with our mentoring lead. These sessions provide an opportunity for our young people to discuss any problems they may be experiencing in a comfortable setting. This information is then discussed in our daily staff meetings where we will discuss what support can be put in place, what can be adapted in the young person's day to improve their wellbeing, further mentoring sessions to be organised and necessary communication with external sources (Barnardos, NSPCC, YoungMinds etc).

- **Group Mentoring Sessions:** Our young people are encouraged to participate in the timetabled group mentoring sessions. The topics discussed are the most prevalent at the time. The sessions are designed to raise awareness of situations that young people can find themselves in without realising. The most relevant topic relates to contextual safeguarding. The young people are given the opportunity to hear from adults who have worked alongside young people who have been coerced into a criminal life by 'friends.'

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Current position

The charity has enjoyed a steady strengthening of its financial position over the last few years. Through sustaining government contracts and securing funding for the charitable projects and services that we provide, the charity has continued with all planned operations and projects. This has used some of the charity's reserves and the charity was thankful that it had accessed the support offered by the government in the form of the Bounce Back Loan Scheme (BBLs).

Principal funding sources

The organisation currently categorises its income into three main streams:

1. Direct funding for education services for students at the Academy. This is either through arrangement with Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) or through Local Authority Special Educational Needs services. All funding received through this stream is used for educational purposes.
2. Restricted funds for charity projects obtained through application. All funding secured through this stream is used on specific projects that the charity runs over finite periods of time. Funding can be to cover the whole cost of a project or part of it, with some grants being combined to cover different delivery aspects of a project. Generous funding from BBC's Children in Need has supported several crucial projects over the last few years, and they continue to fund projects for this coming financial year.
3. Unrestricted funds through donations from charitable trust. Unrestricted funds are used to supplement educational and community services that City United Limited provides. Examples can be one off costs, on-going operational costs or additional costs incurred from the educational service or community projects. These funds are vital to the work that we carry out within our community and allow us to adapt to the changing needs of our young people as we see best.

As the charity moves forward the Board of Trustees will be working with the leadership team to source additional streams of income, namely from fundraising activities and by growing awareness of the charity in the local community and further afield.

As a charity, City United Limited is exempt from tax on income and gains provided these are used for educational and charitable purposes in line with our charitable aims. Our charitable status entitles us to an 80% reduction on our business rates on the property we occupy for charitable purposes. The financial benefits we receive through these tax exemptions assist the charity indirectly to carry out its educational and community projects.

Investment policy

The return of the charity to a position of surplus has enabled the Trustee's to formulate an investment policy considering emerging trends and opportunities. The organisation has again decided that investment in our people will provide the greatest benefit to the people we serve through the services we provide. Continuing Professional Development has been a priority for the independent school this year, to enable compliance with current teaching trends, legislation and improve the education service provided to the young people.

In addition City United Limited has purchased two further interactive touch screens for the classrooms to enhance the educational offer.

Reserve's policy

The Board of the charity continue to examine the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It maintains a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity, should be between 3 and 6 months of expenditure. Following the Pandemic, The Board and the leadership team have worked hard to return the reserve levels back to those set out in the policy. The Board is maintaining stringent controls on costs as a key strategy for delivering sustained growth as the organisation continues to feel the effects of the pandemic and looks to the future.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

FUTURE PLANS

As the charity has continued to recover from an uncertain climate, focus will be on maintaining the current provisions and services that the charity offers whilst ensuring the financial survival of the organisation. Plus securing new business from gaining a 'Good' grade and extending the cohort to fifty. This is in addition to extending the age range that the academy is registered for that will slow down the falling numbers at the end of each academic year. The charity has already experienced the effects of public spending cuts and an economic downturn will inevitably affect revenue streams, fundraising opportunities and donations. The Trustees and senior leadership of the organisation will position the charity's funding strategy and expenditure in accordance with the risk model that has been created.

The addition of Adam Simcox, an independent financial advisor in the private sector continues to support the Board of Trustees to stay strong by providing financial advice and guidance, throughout the recovery process.

We continue to prioritise the development of our independent school in light of sustained demand and an obvious need associated with already disrupted and challenging school experiences for increasing numbers of local vulnerable young people. We now cater for a majority of children with special educational needs (SEN). We have established this position based on evidential need and following extensive consultations with parents, Sandwell and Birmingham SENAR, local secondary schools and the local authority's YOT service. We are also responding to the demographic projections sourced by SENAR and public health that the city will experience increased levels of SEN amongst children over the next 10-years. To this end the charity has made progressive relationships with Birmingham Education Support Services to bridge the gap between those students requiring special educational support and access to the services that will assist them on their educational journey. We are now in the early stages of receiving commissions from three local authorities Special Educational needs Departments.

Our founding principle of 'hard work + aspirations = success' is maintained by investing in both targeted and open-access youth provision and by providing formal and informal educational support that builds resilience, capabilities and leaves no child behind. This means that we seek to maintain our key focus on disadvantaged children, young people and their families in all the key activities listed above.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal form and governing document

The organisation is a charity limited by guarantee, incorporated on 16th July 2003 and registered as a charity on 19th October 2007. The organisation was established under a Memorandum of Association that sets out the objectives and the powers of the charitable association and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the organisation being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid during the year.

New Board members are appointed by existing Board of Trustees. We invite senior business people from our local community to consider joining the Board of Trustees and also encourage our young people to apply for positions on our Board.

The Board wants to maximise its effectiveness and to this end it has established the following required skills and experience to be present in its composition:

- A Trustee with a social work background
- A Trustee with significant education experience (preferably previously held a position of Head Teacher at a school)
- A Trustee with a financial background
- At least one male and one female Trustee

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04834723 (England and Wales)

City United Limited (Registered number: 04834723)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Registered Charity number

1121305

Registered office

10 Warwick House
Edward Street
Birmingham
B1 2RX

Trustees

Mrs J Plummer
Ms B Scrivens
Mrs D O'Connor
Mr A J Simcox

Independent Examiner

Mr G J Rummens FCCA
V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 11 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of City United Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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 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.

Mr G J Rummens FCCA

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

11 December 2023

City United Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities		351,144	19,803	370,947	359,904
COVID support and JRS		-	-	-	53,476
Investment income	2	130	-	130	-
Other income		800	-	800	-
Total		<u>352,074</u>	<u>19,803</u>	<u>371,877</u>	<u>413,380</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities		372,386	14,223	386,609	435,445
Support Costs		10,380	-	10,380	8,838
Total		<u>382,766</u>	<u>14,223</u>	<u>396,989</u>	<u>444,283</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(30,692)	5,580	(25,112)	(30,903)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		78,498	-	78,498	109,401
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>47,806</u></u>	<u><u>5,580</u></u>	<u><u>53,386</u></u>	<u><u>78,498</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	27,991	-	27,991	24,834
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	32,144	-	32,144	12,345
Cash at bank and in hand		41,963	5,580	47,543	115,162
		74,107	5,580	79,687	127,507
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(14,530)	-	(14,530)	(28,284)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		59,577	5,580	65,157	99,223
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		87,568	5,580	93,148	124,057
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	9	(39,762)	-	(39,762)	(45,559)
NET ASSETS					
		47,806	5,580	53,386	78,498
FUNDS					
	11				
Unrestricted funds				47,806	78,498
Restricted funds				5,580	-
TOTAL FUNDS					
				53,386	78,498

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

City United Limited (Registered number: 04834723)

Balance Sheet - continued

31 March 2023

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 11 December 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	130	-
	<u>130</u>	<u>-</u>

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	6,833	4,014
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	(800)	-
	<u>6,033</u>	<u>4,014</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

5. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	240,723	276,077
Social security costs	17,011	19,078
Other pension costs	5,072	4,753
	<u>262,806</u>	<u>299,908</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
Employees	10	13
	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2022	101,310	7,620	22,267	131,197
Additions	-	9,990	-	9,990
At 31 March 2023	101,310	17,610	22,267	141,187
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2022	94,596	3,423	8,344	106,363
Charge for year	1,678	1,674	3,481	6,833
At 31 March 2023	96,274	5,097	11,825	113,196
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2023	5,036	12,513	10,442	27,991
At 31 March 2022	6,714	4,197	13,923	24,834

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Trade debtors	29,837	9,890
Prepayments	2,307	2,455
	32,144	12,345

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 10)	5,900	4,850
Social security and other taxes	4,430	6,918
Other creditors	-	1,208
Deferred income	-	11,108
Accrued expenses	4,200	4,200
	14,530	28,284

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Bank loans (see note 10)	<u>39,762</u>	<u>45,559</u>

10. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank loans	<u>5,900</u>	<u>4,850</u>
Amounts falling between one and two years:		
Bank loans - 1-2 years	<u>5,900</u>	<u>5,822</u>
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans - 2-5 years	<u>17,728</u>	<u>17,460</u>
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Bank loans more 5 yr by instal	16,134	22,277

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,498	(30,692)	47,806
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	-	5,580	5,580
	<u>78,498</u>	<u>(25,112)</u>	<u>53,386</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	352,074	(382,766)	(30,692)
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	10,307	(4,727)	5,580
Learning Curve Group	9,496	(9,496)	-
	<u>19,803</u>	<u>(14,223)</u>	<u>5,580</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>371,877</u>	<u>(396,989)</u>	<u>(25,112)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	104,795	(26,297)	78,498
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	3,695	(3,695)	-
Tesco groundworks	911	(911)	-
	<u>4,606</u>	<u>(4,606)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>109,401</u>	<u>(30,903)</u>	<u>78,498</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	356,886	(383,183)	(26,297)
Restricted funds			
BCC Recruitment	4,500	(4,500)	-
Children in Need 2	23,900	(27,595)	(3,695)
Tesco groundworks	-	(911)	(911)
Learning Curve Group	28,094	(28,094)	-
	<u>56,494</u>	<u>(61,100)</u>	<u>(4,606)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>413,380</u>	<u>(444,283)</u>	<u>(30,903)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	104,795	(56,989)	47,806
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	3,695	1,885	5,580
Tesco groundworks	911	(911)	-
	<u>4,606</u>	<u>974</u>	<u>5,580</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>109,401</u>	<u>(56,015)</u>	<u>53,386</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	708,960	(765,949)	(56,989)
Restricted funds			
BCC Recruitment	4,500	(4,500)	-
Children in Need 2	34,207	(32,322)	1,885
Tesco groundworks	-	(911)	(911)
Learning Curve Group	37,590	(37,590)	-
	<u>76,297</u>	<u>(75,323)</u>	<u>974</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>785,257</u></u>	<u><u>(841,272)</u></u>	<u><u>(56,015)</u></u>

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

CITY UNITED LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1121305

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04834723 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1121305

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022
for
City United Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9 to 10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 16

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 Vision

We believe that all children and young people should be able to feel safe, empowered to be happy and successful, and encouraged to follow their dreams.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide support and guide young people aged 6 -25 to make and construct positive changes to their day-to-day lives. This is done through youth work, education, mentoring and coaching.

Our aims

Through our independent school, City United Academy, we aim to provide a safe, rounded educational provision for those young people whose learning pathway has taken a different route. We aim to accommodate the academic and well-being needs of those young people who have experienced difficulties in mainstream education.

Our dedicated and highly skilled team provide the support needed to allow our students to find their own self-identity and flourish in an environment where they feel secure and happy. We aim to create an enjoyable learning experience in which every student can overcome the challenges they have faced along their educational journey. Our shared values of re-engage, inspire and nurture help us to maximise our young people's outcomes as they enter adulthood.

This past year the team has strived to make up the shortfall in external services equipped to deal with the increase in mental health problems amongst our young people. The impact of the pandemic on the young peoples' physical and mental health, generated and exacerbated barriers to positive social interaction that caused severe self-esteem issues, increasing the vulnerability of the young people we engage.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Our objectives

In line with the Charity Commission's public benefit guide, this year we prioritised our objectives around not letting any young person become unnecessarily disadvantaged or unsafe. Our young people have experienced a revolving door of services throughout their lives which have been devoid of continuity. As such, specific objectives were put in place to combat the difficulties young people were facing following the pandemic:

- Maintain contact with all participants enrolled in our projects through the most convenient way to ensure they had a trusted person to speak to.
- The charity stayed ready to adapt all community projects to be able to take place online, maintaining their value and reach but resumed their face to face engagement once it was safe to do so.
- Following the fall out of the Government reducing benefit top ups, the provision of food, clothing, toiletries, etc to those most in need, allowing participation/education to continue and mitigate unnecessary home pressures has continued.
- Minimise the impact of social isolation.

In addition, the team ensures the continuity of:

- Broadening the curriculum and the student choices that the students have at the academy.
- Developing our wellbeing and pastoral care
- Investing in our people so their practices can continue to have impact on the lives of the young people we work with.

The wellbeing of our team has always been of the utmost importance. We are still recovering from the pandemic and still finding the situation stressful as charitable funding has dwindled and has not been renewed. Inevitably, our team has faced adversity like no other. The Board of Trustees and the leadership team persevere with their main objectives:

- Provide wellbeing support to all staff
- Provide an environment where everyone's voice counts on safety and wellbeing
- Offer flexibility as much as possible
- Avoid any job losses

Ofsted inspected the academy in May 2022 and recognised the impact of the work carried out by the team. The inspectors recognised that Pupils at City United Academy were provided with a second chance to succeed in education, having previously missed a lot of school and having significant gaps in their learning. They further recognised that the team took time to understand pupils' individual needs and provided strong guidance and support to overcome pupils' barriers to learning. They acknowledged that the strong relationships built up with the young people manifested a mutual respect and helped to diminish barriers to social exclusion and academic progress. They realised, something that the team already knew, that this mutual respect and trust between the service users and the team, would help young people to develop crucial skills needed for the next stage of their lives.

Ofsted recommended to The Department for Education that the academy could extend their cohort of young people to fifty, which will help to increase revenue.

Over a number of years we have evidenced that young people who use our services are not ready to move on to further education without the support of a key person. On most occasions, the young people drop out of further education due to the lack of equipment or poor mental health that is not addressed in their new setting. The accolade of a 'Good' Ofsted has meant we were awarded the status of sixth form by The Department of Education.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Activities for achieving objectives

Charity projects

Following the COVID-19 pandemic the lives of our young people and their families remain very hard. Some families lost loved ones and some families lost income due to job losses. Inevitably our families are still experiencing an increased impact on mental health and wellbeing. The projects sought to deal with the lack of self-worth amongst families and the agonising impact of significant family members being lost. This reduced vital support networks for some of our families. The charity was quick to respond, and prioritised action where it was needed most. Some of the achievements were:

- Every young person working with our charity through the projects or the academy received one to one support to discuss their worries.
- We continued to provide food for the participants involved in the projects.
- Attendance in project workshops, activities and mentoring sessions remained similar with some projects finding that the participants preferred to continue online. This preference was made available and eventually with encouragement participants returned to the face to face engagement.
- We have observed our young people engaging positively with their families and improvements in whole family cohesion. Parents/ carers and grandparents have remained involved in the cooking and craft activities, giving the projects deeper meaning and value.
- The projects have focused more on mental health and wellbeing enhancing resilience in our young people.

Academic Achievements

Following the return to 'normal life' we saw a new wave of young people using our service. Most of them were not classed as vulnerable during the pandemic and therefore did not qualify for the school places offered to vulnerable young people. Consequently, their self-esteem and anxiety was at a critical level meaning these students were severely impacted by the nationwide closure of schools, due to the pandemic.

Students had become used to not attending school and families needed support to return to a routine. As part of this encouragement students were offered a hot breakfast when they arrived each day. Any parent arriving with them was also offered the opportunity to eat a hot breakfast and have a hot drink.

Attending school is a crucial protective factor to those young people experiencing multiple adverse childhood experiences, this is why the academy puts great importance and emphasis on school attendance as part of its comprehensive safeguarding measures. Support through charitable funding has extended the academic welfare officer and academic coach/mentor posts that assist in breaking down barriers to attending school and ensure that contextual safeguarding is applied to all students and young people that the charity works with.

For the 2021-22 academic year, City United Academy continued to offer Business and Citizenship, plus made an addition of Physical Education to its GCSE options to further enhance the choice and the curriculum offering at the school. This year students will continue to sit actual live examinations at their school.

It is widely recognised that a young person's emotional health and wellbeing influences their cognitive development and learning, as well as their physical and social health and their mental wellbeing in adulthood. As a school, CUA aims to promote every young person's wellbeing to ensure that they can reach their full potential.

CUA supports our young people's wellbeing through:

- **Broad PSHE Curriculum:** CUA are proud to offer young people a broad PSHE curriculum which incorporates a range of topics that contribute to a young person's wellbeing, these include healthy relationships, family support, health and personal safety, behaving to achieve, rights and responsibilities, factors that affect mental health, domestic abuse, sexual consent and support available to young people.
- **One to One Mentoring Sessions:** Our young people are offered one-to-one mentoring sessions with our mentoring lead. These sessions provide an opportunity for our young people to discuss any problems they may be experiencing in a comfortable setting. This information is then discussed in our daily staff meetings where we will discuss what support can be put in place, what can be adapted in the young person's day to improve their wellbeing, further mentoring sessions to be organised and necessary communication with external sources (Barnardos, NSPCC, YoungMinds etc).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- **Group Mentoring Sessions:** Our young people are encouraged to participate in the timetabled group mentoring sessions. The topics discussed are the most prevalent at the time. The sessions are designed to raise awareness of situations that young people can find themselves in without realising. The most relevant topic relates to contextual safeguarding. The young people are given the opportunity to hear from adults who have worked alongside young people who have been involved in g gangs and have been coerced into a criminal life by 'friends.'

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Current position

The charity has enjoyed a steady strengthening of its financial position over the last few years. Through sustaining government contracts and securing funding for the charitable projects and services that we provide, the charity managed to continue with all planned operations and projects throughout the pandemic and deal with the additional costs that were incurred as a result. This has used some of the charity's reserves and the charity was required to access the support offered by the government in the form of the Bounce Back Loan Scheme (BLS) and the Job Retention Scheme (JRS).

Principal funding sources

The organisation currently categorises its income into three main streams:

1. Direct funding for education services for students at the Academy. This is either through arrangement with Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) or through Local Authority Special Educational Needs services. All funding received through this stream is used for educational purposes.

2. Restricted funds for charity projects obtained through application. All funding secured through this stream is used on specific projects that the charity runs over finite periods of time. Funding can be to cover the whole cost of a project or part of it, with some grants being combined to cover different delivery aspects of a project. Generous funding from BBC's Children in Need has supported several crucial projects over the last few years, and they continue to fund projects for this coming financial year.

3. Unrestricted funds through donations from charitable trust. Unrestricted funds are used to supplement educational and community services that City United Limited provides. Examples can be one off costs, on-going operational costs or additional costs incurred from the educational service or community projects. These funds are vital to the work that we carry out within our community and allow us to adapt to the changing needs of our young people as we see best. The Board of Trustees and all at City United Limited would like to thank The Tuixen Foundation for their continued support, whose grant money has been integral to the vital support that we have been able to provide throughout 2021-22.

As the charity moves forward the Board of Trustees will be working with the leadership team to source additional streams of income, namely from fundraising activities and by growing awareness of the charity in the local community and further afield.

As a charity, City United Limited is exempt from tax on income and gains provided these are used for educational and charitable purposes in line with our charitable aims. Our charitable status entitles us to an 80% reduction on our business rates on the property we occupy for charitable purposes. The financial benefits we receive through these tax exemptions assist the charity indirectly to carry out its educational and community projects.

Investment policy

The return of the charity to a position of surplus has enabled the Trustee's to formulate an investment policy considering emerging trends and opportunities. The organisation has again decided that investment in our people will provide the greatest benefit to the people we serve through the services we provide. Continuing Professional Development has been a priority for the independent school this year, to enable compliance with current teaching trends, legislation and improve the education service provided to the young people.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserve's policy

The Board of the charity continue to examine the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It maintains a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity, should be between 3 and 6 months of expenditure. Recovering from the financial effects of COVID-19 has meant using some of the reserves at times; however, the Board and the leadership team have worked hard to return the reserve levels back to those set out in the policy. The Board is maintaining stringent controls on costs as a key strategy for delivering sustained growth as the organisation continues to feel the effects of the pandemic and looks to the future.

FUTURE PLANS

As the charity recovers from the uncertainty following the pandemic, focus will be on maintaining the current provisions and services that the charity offers whilst ensuring the financial survival of the organisation. Plus securing new business from gaining a 'Good' grade and extending the cohort to fifty. This is in addition to extending the age range that the academy is registered for that will slow down the falling numbers at the end of each academic year. The charity has already experienced the effects of public spending cuts and an economic downturn will inevitably affect revenue streams, fundraising opportunities and donations. The Trustees and senior leadership of the organisation will position the charity's funding strategy and expenditure in accordance with the risk model that has been created.

The addition of Adam Simcox, an independent financial advisor in the private sector continues to support the Board of Trustees to stay strong by providing financial advice and guidance, throughout the recovery process.

We continue to prioritise the development of our independent school in light of sustained demand and an obvious need associated with already disrupted and challenging school experiences for increasing numbers of local vulnerable young people. We now cater for a majority of children with special educational needs (SEN). We have established this position based on evidential need and following extensive consultations with parents, Sandwell and Birmingham SENAR, local secondary schools and the local authority's YOT service. We are also responding to the demographic projections sourced by SENAR and public health that the city will experience increased levels of SEN amongst children over the next 10-years. To this end the charity has made progressive relationships with Birmingham Education Support Services to bridge the gap between those students requiring special educational support and access to the services that will assist them on their educational journey.

Our founding principle of 'hard work + aspirations = success' is maintained by investing in both targeted and open-access youth provision and by providing formal and informal educational support that builds resilience, capabilities and leaves no child behind. This means that we seek to maintain our key focus on disadvantaged children, young people and their families in all the key activities listed above.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal form and governing document

The organisation is a charity limited by guarantee, incorporated on 16th July 2003 and registered as a charity on 19th October 2007. The organisation was established under a Memorandum of Association that sets out the objectives and the powers of the charitable association and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the organisation being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid during the year.

New Board members are appointed by existing Board of Trustees. We invite senior business people from our local community to consider joining the Board of Trustees and also encourage our young people to apply for positions on our Board.

The Board wants to maximise its effectiveness and to this end it has established the following required skills and experience to be present in its composition:

- A Trustee with a social work background
- A Trustee with significant education experience (preferably previously held a position of Head Teacher at a school)
- A Trustee with a financial background
- At least one male and one female Trustee

City United Limited (Registered number: 04834723)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04834723 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1121305

Registered office

10 Warwick House
Edward Street
Birmingham
B1 2RX

Trustees

Mrs J Plummer
Ms B Scrivens
Mrs D O'Connor
Mr A J Simcox

Independent Examiner

Mr G J Rummens
FCCA
V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 9 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of City United Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of FCCA 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 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.

Mr G J Rummens
FCCA
V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

9 December 2022

City United Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities		303,410	56,494	359,904	397,285
COVID support and JRS		53,476	-	53,476	24,761
Total		<u>356,886</u>	<u>56,494</u>	<u>413,380</u>	<u>422,046</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities		374,345	61,100	435,445	383,317
Support Costs		8,838	-	8,838	8,880
Total		<u>383,183</u>	<u>61,100</u>	<u>444,283</u>	<u>392,197</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>(26,297)</u>	<u>(4,606)</u>	<u>(30,903)</u>	<u>29,849</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>104,795</u>	<u>4,606</u>	<u>109,401</u>	<u>79,552</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>78,498</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>78,498</u></u>	<u><u>109,401</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	5	24,834	-	24,834	14,050
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	12,345	-	12,345	3,289
Cash at bank and in hand		115,162	-	115,162	155,806
		<u>127,507</u>	-	<u>127,507</u>	<u>159,095</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(28,284)	-	(28,284)	(13,744)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>99,223</u>	-	<u>99,223</u>	<u>145,351</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		124,057	-	124,057	159,401
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	8	(45,559)	-	(45,559)	(50,000)
NET ASSETS					
		<u>78,498</u>	-	<u>78,498</u>	<u>109,401</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	10			78,498	104,795
Restricted funds				-	4,606
TOTAL FUNDS					
				<u>78,498</u>	<u>109,401</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

City United Limited (Registered number: 04834723)

Balance Sheet - continued

31 March 2022

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 9 December 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

2. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	4,014	4,684
	<u>4,014</u>	<u>4,684</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

4. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	276,077	240,572
Social security costs	19,078	17,349
Other pension costs	4,753	4,410
	<u>299,908</u>	<u>262,331</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.22	31.3.21
Employees	13	11
	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2021	97,816	7,620	10,963	116,399
Additions	3,494	-	11,304	14,798
	<u>101,310</u>	<u>7,620</u>	<u>22,267</u>	<u>131,197</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2021	93,426	2,024	6,899	102,349
Charge for year	1,170	1,399	1,445	4,014
	<u>94,596</u>	<u>3,423</u>	<u>8,344</u>	<u>106,363</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2022	<u>6,714</u>	<u>4,197</u>	<u>13,923</u>	<u>24,834</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>4,390</u>	<u>5,596</u>	<u>4,064</u>	<u>14,050</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Trade debtors	9,890	2,215
Prepayments	2,455	1,074
	<u>12,345</u>	<u>3,289</u>
7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 9)	4,850	-
Social security and other taxes	6,918	5,995
Other creditors	1,208	-
Deferred income	11,108	3,549
Accrued expenses	4,200	4,200
	<u>28,284</u>	<u>13,744</u>
8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Bank loans (see note 9)	45,559	50,000
9. LOANS		
An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:		
	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank loans	4,850	-
	<u>4,850</u>	<u>-</u>
Amounts falling between one and two years:		
Bank loans - 1-2 years	5,822	4,167
	<u>5,822</u>	<u>4,167</u>
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans - 2-5 years	17,460	20,000
	<u>17,460</u>	<u>20,000</u>
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Bank loans more 5 yr by instal	22,277	25,833

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	104,795	(26,297)	78,498
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	3,695	(3,695)	-
Tesco groundworks	911	(911)	-
	<u>4,606</u>	<u>(4,606)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>109,401</u>	<u>(30,903)</u>	<u>78,498</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	356,886	(383,183)	(26,297)
Restricted funds			
BCC Recruitment	4,500	(4,500)	-
Children in Need 2	23,900	(27,595)	(3,695)
Tesco groundworks	-	(911)	(911)
Learning Curve Group	28,094	(28,094)	-
	<u>56,494</u>	<u>(61,100)</u>	<u>(4,606)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>413,380</u>	<u>(444,283)</u>	<u>(30,903)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	68,779	36,016	104,795
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 1	2,476	(2,476)	-
Big Lottery Awards	2,808	(2,808)	-
Children in Need 2	5,489	(1,794)	3,695
Tesco groundworks	-	911	911
	<u>10,773</u>	<u>(6,167)</u>	<u>4,606</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>79,552</u>	<u>29,849</u>	<u>109,401</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	374,222	(338,206)	36,016
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 1	14,856	(17,332)	(2,476)
Big Lottery Awards	-	(2,808)	(2,808)
Children in Need 2	12,479	(14,273)	(1,794)
CAF	19,489	(19,489)	-
Tesco groundworks	1,000	(89)	911
	<u>47,824</u>	<u>(53,991)</u>	<u>(6,167)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>422,046</u>	<u>(392,197)</u>	<u>29,849</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	68,779	9,719	78,498
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 1	2,476	(2,476)	-
Big Lottery Awards	2,808	(2,808)	-
Children in Need 2	5,489	(5,489)	-
	<u>10,773</u>	<u>(10,773)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>79,552</u>	<u>(1,054)</u>	<u>78,498</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	731,108	(721,389)	9,719
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 1	14,856	(17,332)	(2,476)
BCC Recruitment	4,500	(4,500)	-
Big Lottery Awards	-	(2,808)	(2,808)
Children in Need 2	36,379	(41,868)	(5,489)
CAF	19,489	(19,489)	-
Tesco groundworks	1,000	(1,000)	-
Learning Curve Group	28,094	(28,094)	-
	<u>104,318</u>	<u>(115,091)</u>	<u>(10,773)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>835,426</u>	<u>(836,480)</u>	<u>(1,054)</u>

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2022.

CITY UNITED LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1121305

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04834723 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1121305

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

for

City United Limited
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

City United Limited

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8 to 9
Notes to the Financial Statements	10 to 15

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Our Vision

We believe that all children and young people should be able to feel safe, empowered to be happy and successful, and encouraged to follow their dreams.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide support and guide young people aged 6 -25 to make and construct positive changes to their day-to-day lives. This is done through youth work, education, mentoring and coaching.

Our aims

Our projects aim to address the current needs faced by the children and young people. Throughout this last year that has been mitigating the impact of the pandemic on young peoples' physical and mental health, and the barriers that it has provided to positive social interaction and exclusion through technology poverty.

Through our independent school, City United Academy, we aim to provide a safe, rounded educational provision for those young people whose learning pathway has taken a different route. We aim to accommodate the academic and well-being needs of those young people who have experienced difficulties in mainstream education.

Our dedicated and highly skilled team provide the support needed to allow our students to find their own self-identity and flourish in an environment where they feel secure and happy. We aim to create an enjoyable learning experience in which every student can overcome the challenges they have faced along their educational journey. Our shared values of re-engage, inspire and nurture help us to maximise our young people's outcomes as they enter adulthood.

Our objectives

In line with the Charity Commission's public benefit guide, this year we prioritised our objectives around not letting any young person become unnecessarily disadvantaged or unsafe through the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our young people have experienced a revolving door of services throughout their lives which have been devoid of continuity. As such, specific objectives were put in place to combat the difficulties young people were facing during the pandemic:

- Maintain contact with all participants enrolled in our projects through the most convenient and covid secure way possible.
- Adapt all community projects to be able to take place online, maintaining their value and reach.
- Provide essentials (food, clothing, toiletries, etc.) to those most in need, allowing participation/education to continue and mitigate unnecessary home pressures.
- Minimise the impact of social isolation.
- Provide access to a full curriculum through blended learning to all of our students despite national lockdown implications on education.
- Ensure that all children had the necessary technologies and services in place to be able to continue their education when not able to attend.

Those objectives that were not directly COVID-19 impacted included:

- Broadening the curriculum and the student choices that the students have at the academy.
- Continue to develop our wellbeing and pastoral care.
- Persist in investing in our people so their practices can continue to have impact on the lives of the young people we work with.

The wellbeing of our team has always been of the utmost importance, and this year our team has faced adversity like no other. The Board of Trustees and the leadership team had two objectives:

- Provide wellbeing support to all staff
- Provide an environment where everyone's voice counts on safety and wellbeing
- Offer flexibility as much as possible
- Do all in its power to avoid any job losses

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Activities for achieving objectives

Charity projects

The COVID-19 pandemic hit the lives of our young people and their families very hard. Food shortages, technology poverty and an increased impact on mental health and wellbeing were just a few of the challenges that our young people faced, and in turn our charitable activities sought to combat. Disruption caused by social restriction measures in place during the three national lockdowns forced a change in the charity's planned projects and services. The charity was quick to respond, and prioritised action where it was needed most. Some of the achievements were:

- Every young person working with our charity through the projects or the academy received an electronic device if they required one
- We delivered over £1000 of food and supplies to those in our community most in need
- Attendance on project workshops, activities and mentoring sessions remained similar with some projects finding that the online delivery meant that they were able to reach more young people.
- We have observed our young people engaging positively with their families and improvements in whole family cohesion through joining in our practical craft and cooking sessions online; or taking part in our physical activity sessions and creating their own exercise routines that could be performed in lockdown.
- Importantly to all our young people's mental health wellbeing and resilience is the ability to express their concerns and feelings in an appropriate way and we have seen this in the majority of young people.

Academic Achievements

Like all school children around the country, our students were severely impacted by the nationwide closure of schools due to COVID-19. Due to the type of school that we operate and the highly vulnerable young people that we educate, City United Academy remained open. This was a difficult task as we were faced with staff shortage due to shielding; student anxieties regarding attending school; and logistical issues around delivering a blended curriculum. Very quickly, due to work already done to improve the academy's IT infrastructure in previous years, the leadership team were able to offer a fully synchronised curriculum that ran both online and face-to-face simultaneously. This allowed the academy to continue the education of all pupils, whether attending in person or virtually, and most importantly continue the welfare and safeguarding support that is so vital to our students.

City United Academy is proud that student attendance actually increased during the national lockdowns and that this continued as schools reopened. Attending school is a crucial protective factor to those young people experiencing multiple adverse childhood experiences, this is why the academy puts great importance and emphasis on school attendance as part of its comprehensive safeguarding measures. Support through charitable funding has extended the academic welfare officer and academic coach/mentor posts that assist in breaking down barriers to attending school and ensure that contextual safeguarding is applied to all students and young people that the charity works with.

City United Academy became an exam centre in 2020 offering our academy's students to take their qualification examinations in a place that they were familiar with and comfortable in. COVID-19 impacted the summer 2020 examination series resulting in all exams being cancelled and teachers required to submit 'Teacher Assessed Grades' (TAGs) to examination boards for consideration of qualification award. City United Academy has robust assessment policies that requires evidence collection of student attainment in each subject periodically throughout the year. This meant that the school was better placed than most in being able to digitally collate evidence of expected grades and was able to create an internal moderation process to determine a fair and accurate set of TAGs for submission to the examination board. 100% of students achieved a GCSE award in mathematics and English Language.

For the 2020-21 academic year, City United Academy has added Business and Citizenship to its GCSE options to further enhance the choice and the curriculum offering at the school.

It is widely recognised that a young person's emotional health and wellbeing influences their cognitive development and learning, as well as their physical and social health and their mental wellbeing in adulthood. As a school, CUA aims to promote every young person's wellbeing to ensure that they can reach their full potential.

CUA supports our young people's wellbeing through:

- **Broad PSHE Curriculum:** CUA are proud to offer young people a broad PSHE curriculum which incorporates a range of topics that contribute to a young person's wellbeing, these include healthy relationships, family support, health and personal safety, behaving to achieve, rights and responsibilities, factors that affect mental health, domestic abuse, sexual consent and support available to young people.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- **One to One Mentoring Sessions:** Our young people are offered one-to-one mentoring sessions with our mentoring lead. These sessions provide an opportunity for our young people to discuss any problems they may be experiencing in a comfortable setting. This information is then discussed in our daily staff meetings where we will discuss what support can be put in place, what can be adapted in the young person's day to improve their wellbeing, further mentoring sessions to be organised and necessary communication with external sources (Barnardos, NSPCC, YoungMinds etc).

- **Group Mentoring Sessions:** Our young people are encouraged to participate in the timetabled group mentoring sessions. The topics discussed are the most prevalent at the time. The sessions are designed to raise awareness of situations that young people can find themselves in without realising. The most relevant topic relates to contextual safeguarding. The young people are given the opportunity to hear from adults who have worked alongside young people who have been involved in gangs and have been coerced into a criminal life by 'friends.'

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Current position

The charity has enjoyed a steady strengthening of its financial position over the last few years. Through sustaining government contracts and securing funding for the charitable projects and services that we provide, the charity managed to continue with all planned operations and projects throughout the first 12 months of the pandemic and deal with the additional costs that were incurred as a result. This has used some of the charity's reserves and the charity was required to access the support offered by the government in the form of the Bounce Back Loan Scheme (BBS) and the Job Retention Scheme (JRS).

Principal funding sources

The organisation currently categorises its income into three main streams:

1. Direct funding for education services for students at the Academy. This is either through arrangement with Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) or through Local Authority Special Educational Needs services. All funding received through this stream is used for educational purposes.

2. Restricted funds for charity projects obtained through application. All funding secured through this stream is used on specific projects that the charity runs over finite periods of time. Funding can be to cover the whole cost of a project or part of it, with some grants being combined to cover different delivery aspects of a project. Generous funding from BBC's Children in Need has supported several crucial projects over the last few years, and they continue to fund projects for this coming financial year.

3. Unrestricted funds through donations from charitable trust. Unrestricted funds are used to supplement educational and community services that City United Limited provides. Examples can be one off costs, on-going operational costs or additional costs incurred from the educational service or community projects. These funds are vital to the work that we carry out within our community and allow us to adapt the changing needs of our young people as we see best. For example, during the months of March to September 2020 a proportion of our unrestricted funds budget provided food packages and technology packages to those families that we work with whom were most in need. The Board of Trustees and all at City United Limited would like to thank The Tuixen Foundation for their continued support, whose grant money has been integral to the vital support that we have been able to provide throughout 2020-21.

As the charity moves forward the Board of Trustees will be working with the leadership team to source additional streams of income, namely from fundraising activities and by growing awareness of the charity in the local community and further afield.

As a charity, City United Limited is exempt from tax on income and gains provided these are used for educational and charitable purposes in line with our charitable aims. Our charitable status entitles us to an 80% reduction on our business rates on the property we occupy for charitable purposes. The financial benefits we receive through these tax exemptions assist the charity indirectly to carry out its educational and community projects.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Investment policy

The return of the charity to a position of surplus has enabled the Trustee's to formulate an investment policy considering emerging trends and opportunities. The organisation has again decided that investment in our people will provide the greatest benefit to the people we serve through the services we provide. Continuing Professional Development has been a priority for the independent school this year, to enable compliance with current teaching trends, legislation and improve the education service provided to the young people.

Reserve's policy

The Board of the charity continue to examine the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It maintains a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity, should be between 3 and 6 months of expenditure. Navigating the financial effects of COVID-19 has meant using some of the reserves at times; however, the Board and the leadership team have worked hard to return the reserve levels back to those set out in the policy. The Board is maintaining stringent controls on costs as a key strategy for delivering sustained growth as the organisation continues to feel the effects of the pandemic and looks to the future.

FUTURE PLANS

As the charity enters a period of uncertainty alongside the rest of the world, focus will be on maintaining the current provisions and services that the charity offers whilst ensuring the financial survival of the organisation. The charity has already experienced the effects of public spending cuts and an economic downturn will inevitably affect revenue streams, fundraising opportunities and donations. The Trustees and senior leadership of the organisation will position the charity's funding strategy and expenditure in accordance with the risk model that has been created.

To assist in navigating this difficult period of change, the Board of Trustees has been strengthened with the addition of Adam Simcox, an independent financial advisor in the private sector, who was officially appointed in May 2020.

We continue to prioritise the development of our independent school in light of sustained demand and an obvious need associated with already disrupted and challenging school experiences for increasing numbers of local vulnerable young people. We now cater for a majority of children with special educational needs (SEN). We have established this position based on evidential need and following extensive consultations with parents, Birmingham SENAR, local secondary schools and the local authority's YOT service. We are also responding to the demographic projections sourced by SENAR and public health that the city will experience increased levels of SEN amongst children over the next 10-years. To this end the charity has made progressive relationships with Birmingham Education Support Services to bridge the gap between those students requiring special educational support and access to the services that will assist them on their educational journey.

Our founding principle of 'hard work + aspirations = success' is maintained by investing in both targeted and open-access youth provision and by providing formal and informal educational support that builds resilience, capabilities and leaves no child behind. This means that we seek to maintain our key focus on disadvantaged children, young people and their families in all the key activities listed above.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal form and governing document

The organisation is a charity limited by guarantee, incorporated on 16th July 2003 and registered as a charity on 19th October 2007. The organisation was established under a Memorandum of Association that sets out the objectives and the powers of the charitable association and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the organisation being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

City United Limited

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

All Trustees give their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid during the year.

New Board members are appointed by existing Board of Trustees. We invite senior business people from our local community to consider joining the Board of Trustees and also encourage our young people to apply for positions on our Board.

The Board wants to maximise its effectiveness and to this end it has established the following required skills and experience to be present in its composition:

- A Trustee with a social work background
- A Trustee with significant education experience (preferably previously held a position of Head Teacher at a school)
- A Trustee with a financial background
- At least one male and one female Trustee

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
04834723 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1121305

Registered office
10 Warwick House
Edward Street
Birmingham
B1 2RX

Trustees
Mrs J Plummer
Ms B Scrivens
Mrs D O'Connor
Mrs L Smith (resigned 18.11.20)
Mr A J Simcox (appointed 21.9.20)

Independent Examiner
Mr G J Rummens
FCCA
V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on16/12/2021..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
City United Limited

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of City United Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of FCCA 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 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.



Mr G J Rummens
FCCA
V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Date: 16.12.21

City United Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities		349,461	47,824	397,285	444,198
COVID support and JRS		24,761	-	24,761	-
Total		374,222	47,824	422,046	444,198
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds					
Charitable activities		334,006	53,991	387,997	412,717
Charitable activities		4,200	-	4,200	4,200
Support Costs					
Total		338,206	53,991	392,197	416,917
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		36,016	(6,167)	29,849	27,281
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		68,779	10,773	79,552	52,271
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		104,795	4,606	109,401	79,552

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	5	14,050	-	14,050	18,003
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	3,289	-	3,289	8,773
Cash at bank and in hand		151,200	4,606	155,806	83,448
		<u>154,489</u>	<u>4,606</u>	<u>159,095</u>	<u>92,221</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(13,744)	-	(13,744)	(30,672)
		<u>140,745</u>	<u>4,606</u>	<u>145,351</u>	<u>61,549</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>154,795</u>	<u>4,606</u>	<u>159,401</u>	<u>79,552</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>154,795</u>	<u>4,606</u>	<u>159,401</u>	<u>79,552</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	8	(50,000)	-	(50,000)	-
		<u>104,795</u>	<u>4,606</u>	<u>109,401</u>	<u>79,552</u>
NET ASSETS					
	10				
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				104,795	68,779
Restricted funds				4,606	10,773
				<u>109,401</u>	<u>79,552</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

City United Limited

Balance Sheet - continued
31 March 2021

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on16/12/2021..... and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mrs J Plummer - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

City United Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

2. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	4,684	3,673
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	<u> </u>	<u>1,598</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

4. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	240,572	251,665
Social security costs	17,349	18,378
Other pension costs	8,610	8,399
	<u>266,531</u>	<u>278,442</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.21	31.3.20
Employees	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2020	97,816	7,620	10,232	115,668
Additions	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	731	731
At 31 March 2021	<u>97,816</u>	<u>7,620</u>	<u>10,963</u>	<u>116,399</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2020	91,962	159	5,544	97,665
Charge for year	1,464	1,865	1,355	4,684
At 31 March 2021	<u>93,426</u>	<u>2,024</u>	<u>6,899</u>	<u>102,349</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2021	<u>4,390</u>	<u>5,596</u>	<u>4,064</u>	<u>14,050</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>5,854</u>	<u>7,461</u>	<u>4,688</u>	<u>18,003</u>

City United Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Trade debtors	2,215	7,700
Prepayments	1,074	1,073
	<u>3,289</u>	<u>8,773</u>
7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	5,995	5,935
Other creditors	-	2,576
Accruals and deferred income	3,549	17,961
Accrued expenses	4,200	4,200
	<u>13,744</u>	<u>30,672</u>
8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR		
	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Bank loans (see note 9)	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>
9. LOANS		
An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:		
	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Amounts falling between one and two years:		
Bank loans - 1-2 years	<u>4,167</u>	<u>-</u>
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans - 2-5 years	<u>20,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Bank loans more 5 yr by instal	25,833	-

City United Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	68,779	36,016	104,795
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 1	2,476	(2,476)	-
Big Lottery Awards	2,808	(2,808)	-
Children in Need 2	5,489	(1,794)	3,695
Tesco groundworks	-	911	911
	<u>10,773</u>	<u>(6,167)</u>	<u>4,606</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>79,552</u>	<u>29,849</u>	<u>109,401</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	374,222	(338,206)	36,016
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 1	14,856	(17,332)	(2,476)
Big Lottery Awards	-	(2,808)	(2,808)
Children in Need 2	12,479	(14,273)	(1,794)
CAF	19,489	(19,489)	-
Tesco groundworks	1,000	(89)	911
	<u>47,824</u>	<u>(53,991)</u>	<u>(6,167)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>422,046</u>	<u>(392,197)</u>	<u>29,849</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	52,271	16,508	68,779
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 1	-	2,476	2,476
Big Lottery Awards	-	2,808	2,808
Children in Need 2	-	5,489	5,489
	<u>-</u>	<u>10,773</u>	<u>10,773</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>52,271</u>	<u>27,281</u>	<u>79,552</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	392,822	(376,314)	16,508
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 1	32,358	(29,882)	2,476
Big Lottery Awards	9,608	(6,800)	2,808
Children in Need 2	9,410	(3,921)	5,489
	<u>51,376</u>	<u>(40,603)</u>	<u>10,773</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>444,198</u>	<u>(416,917)</u>	<u>27,281</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	52,271	52,524	104,795
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 2	-	3,695	3,695
Tesco groundworks	-	911	911
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,606</u>	<u>4,606</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>52,271</u>	<u>57,130</u>	<u>109,401</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	767,044	(714,520)	52,524
Restricted funds			
Children in Need 1	47,214	(47,214)	-
Big Lottery Awards	9,608	(9,608)	-
Children in Need 2	21,889	(18,194)	3,695
CAF	19,489	(19,489)	-
Tesco groundworks	1,000	(89)	911
	<u>99,200</u>	<u>(94,594)</u>	<u>4,606</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>866,244</u>	<u>(809,114)</u>	<u>57,130</u>

City United Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.