

**Schools
North East**



A company limited by guarantee

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 July 2023

Charity number 1129594
Company number 06450637

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Directors' report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2023, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Our 2022/23 Annual Report

- Outlines the structure and model of Schools North East
- Provides an overview of our work over the past twelve months
- Reports on Schools North East as the Voice, Glue, and Bridge for our schools
- Reviews financial performance

Objectives

The advancement of education for the public benefit of children and young people up to the age of 25

Work together to support, inform and influence key regional strategies

Enable schools to improve the quality and effectiveness of education and build links with the employment sector

The Trustees of Schools North East confirm that they have read and given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duties under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 with regard to public benefit. Having considered the guidance, the Trustees have concluded that the work of Schools North East directly supports and strengthens the advancement of education in the region.

Schools North East's annual report provides a valuable and welcome opportunity to reflect on the work of the charity over the past academic year; in particular, to take stock of how it has continued to develop over the last 12 months and to consider its future direction.

Message from Chair of Schools North East, John Hardy

Welcome back! I am delighted to present the Schools North East Annual Report for another year.

The 22/23 academic year was predicted to be the most 'normal' since 2019, and while there are elements of truth to this claim, many might agree that this period was still a far cry from pre-2020 levels.

Although we didn't have to navigate lockdowns and virtual learning in 22/23, we were still dealing with the enormous and ongoing repercussions of having to do so in 20/21.

Schools have been confronted with high rates of absences, crisis levels of mental health and behavioural issues connected to the pandemic, as well as significant recruitment and retention difficulties and the 'cost of living' crisis.

However, despite the significant challenges that we have all had to face, this academic year has also left us with much to celebrate - as both an organisation and as a community of North East schools.

As always, we should acknowledge the challenges but prevent them from overshadowing our achievements. Let us once again applaud all schools for rising above these ongoing difficulties and showing children, parents, communities, and politicians what an amazing job the region's schools do; year after year.

And of course, let's give praise to Schools North East for providing a Voice for our school community to be heard, as well as a platform to promote a positive narrative of North East education.

Celebrating our regional success is important, but so is shedding light on the issues and challenges that must be addressed to enable all of our children to thrive. It's a balancing act that Schools North East does so well.

For the Schools North East team it has been a busy year which has brought activity back to pre-pandemic levels, as reported in this document and reflected in the accounts.

As we venture into another academic year, we're confident that our region's schools will stand strong and united in the face of whatever challenges - RAAC seemingly the first - the new academic year may have in store. And invariably, Schools North East will be there for us, serving as the Voice, Glue, and Bridge that helps all North East schools to thrive.

Finally, I'd like to take this moment to say that I will be stepping down as the Chair of Schools North East, having served my maximum term (and more!). It's been an absolute pleasure working as part of an organisation so passionate and dedicated as this.

And while I'm sad to be closing this chapter, I know that Colin Lofthouse will do a fantastic job in this role. I wish everyone the best.



Introduction from Director of Schools North East, Chris Zarraga

The North East is a truly special place, and we'll go to any lengths to ensure our region's schools get the support and resources that they and their children deserve.

Schools North East is very much a grassroots organisation. We exist because of the people that believe in us – Head Teachers, CEOs, trustees, SBMs, governors, teachers, and school leaders. In short, the truly incredible community of North East schools.

Schools North East is here to "lead not plead"; we'll scream good news from the rooftops, but we'll also step up to demand the changes we know our region's schools are in desperate need of.

This organisation is your network and our programme is entirely driven and directed by you. Through our AGM, events, consultations, surveys, and ongoing discussions with individuals and local networks, we're able to be:



The Voice



The Glue



The Bridge

Schools North East is The Voice of NE schools - putting a strong regional accent on the education debate. And as we enter this election cycle, having a Voice becomes more and more vital if we want policy that is fit for purpose, effective, and worthy of our schools and young people.

As the Voice of North East schools, 2022-23 has been our most successful year yet. There has been a massive increase in engagement with the media: BBC - regional and national, TV and radio, ITV, C4, iNews, Schools Week, The Guardian, FT, GB News, The Times, Tes, regional news outlets, and more.

We even reached my mother-in-law in Belfast!

None of this, however, would be possible without our work as the Glue that holds NE schools together, despite all of the forces that seem to work at pushing them further apart.



This work ensures that we can hear and reflect your experiences, lobby those in power about the issues most important to you, and can act as the greatest cheerleader there is about the excellence that exists in all schools across our region.

Schools North East is now a comprehensive, organic, platform that enables NE schools to engage with us and with each other to catalyse change.

We now have networks that bring together CEOs, Head Teachers, DHTs, CFOs/ SBMs, Nursery School Heads, and SEND/ AP Heads.

Our surveys, focus groups, single issue roundtables, and MP roundtables enable us to gather huge amounts of data, opinion, and comment from schools in every part of our region. This in turn enabled us to be well 'ahead of the game' on major issues throughout the last academic year.

Schools North East is also the Bridge linking our community of schools to the outside world; to those politicians, policymakers, universities, think tanks and funding organisations that drive policy.

It was wonderful to hear SNE described as 'the gateway to impact in the NE' when an organisation was referred to us by a current partner! Building a broad coalition to work on the priorities of NE schools means that partners magnify our messages, taking them into the wider world, lobbying in the media and parliament; the region's MPs lobby Ministers, asking questions in the House of Commons, re-framing the narrative from a sloppy, inaccurate trope, to an evidence-based, factual recounting of the everyday reality you face in school.

Together we make the ultimate team, working to ensure that all schools and young people in the North East can thrive as they deserve.

My sincerest thanks for your ongoing support

Chris Zarraga
Director of Schools North East



JOBS IN SCHOOLS | North East



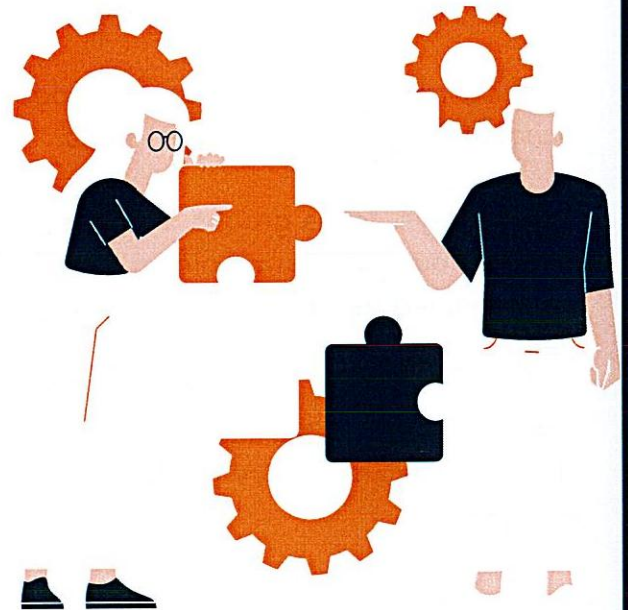
Our Vision

There is a positive narrative of North East schools that supports education at every level.

In the North East we have evidence-based policy making that recognises regional context and depoliticises education.

Schools receive targeted support to ensure all pupils can access an appropriate curriculum, no matter the disadvantage.

From Early Years to leaving school and beyond, North East students, through education and opportunity, are skilled, confident people achieving their full potential.



Our Values

As a charity, we are independent but not neutral. We are for all North East schools - regardless of size, type, faith, structure or location. Our inclusivity defines us, innovation is at our core.

We are constantly seeking fresh solutions to shape the future of education in the region. We have a strong social purpose at the foundation of all our work. Our integrity defines us as we ensure the best possible outcomes for each young person in the North East.



Strategy

Mission Statement

- We are the **Voice** of North East Schools
- We are the **Glue** that holds our schools together
- We provide the **Bridge** for schools to connect to the external world



Voice

We put a strong regional accent on the education debate. As **The Voice**, we reflect any issues in the education sector to ensure the North East gets the support it deserves.

It's **The Voice** that aims to gather and spread the most up to date information regarding NE schools, and the opinions of their leaders, and disseminate these as widely as possible.

The Voice challenges myths. We Lead not Plead.



Glue

As **The Glue**, we bind schools together to create a purposeful community that benefits our region's children.

Our networks bring together CEOs, Head Teachers, DHTs, SBPs, Nursery School Heads, and SEND/ AP Heads and CEOs.

Our events programme brings together over 3,500 school colleagues from across the North East and beyond.

As **The Glue**, we bring them together, and we bind them together, too.



Bridge

There's no point doing all this fantastic work if the outside world can't see it!

As **The Bridge**, we help our region's schools and the outside world to connect with each other.

For maximum success and impact, our region's schools must be connected to politicians, policymakers, universities, think tanks, and funding organisations that operate beyond our region's borders.

That's where our role as **The Bridge** becomes invaluable.



How we create and sustain value for our stakeholders

Inputs



People



Networks



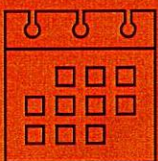
Memberships



Media



Policy



Events

How we create value

For the advancement of education for the public benefit of children and young people up to the age of 25, we have created a strong and powerful network in the North East

We are a trusted voice. We have a strong business model that ensures we are only answerable to our schools

We work with Stakeholders and Members to identify challenges that face our schools and trusts

We are completely self funded with strong engagement from members. Annual surplus is reinvested to support our vision

We take that voice and amplify it, making it heard by decision and policy makers, and the media. We promote a positive narrative around our schools and the region

We have a wide and varied events programme, both physical and online, bringing together colleagues from across the region and beyond

We invest in our team

Our small but dedicated team are committed to the vision

Manifesto for North East Education



We use our Manifesto as a lens and this underpins all of our work

Recognise the regional context

Education policy that supports positive outcomes for North East schools must take into account the context in which it is implemented.

Promote a positive narrative around North East education

All parties must sign up to promoting a positive narrative of North East education that encourages teachers to remain in and join the profession.

Depoliticise education

Politicians and policymakers must sign up to a set of non-partisan principles to underpin education policy.

Evidence-based policymaking

All policy should be able to show a clear evidence base supporting it, with the voice of the teaching profession front and centre.

A long term view

A 10 year view of education, including funding, must be adopted by all parties to allow for realistic plans and the assessment of what is or isn't effective.

Greater support for Early Years

Greater support for Early Years is crucial for tackling the disadvantage gap in attainment, and this support must focus on quality teaching and learning, not just childcare.

A joined up approach from cabinet to the chalkface

Schools are not an island, and policymakers must recognise schools alone cannot be the answer to all social issues.

Support the North East's teaching profession at every level

More must be done to attract the best teachers and staff to the North East, by ensuring clear continuous professional development and giving more support to school leaders when improving schools.

Ensure all pupils can access an appropriate curriculum

Support is needed for a curriculum that develops more than just academic skills, and to ensure schools can provide a minimum 'curriculum guarantee' to all pupils.

Targeted support for those with the greatest needs

Funding and resources must target the region's pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, with the ambition of making the support they receive the envy of the world.

Schools North East at a glance

2022-23

Governance

Board of Trustees
Head Teacher Advisory Board
School Business Management Council

Memberships

683 Partner Schools
57 Partner Trusts
293 Jobs in Schools | North East Subscribers
298 NNoSS Members
144 Commercial Supporters

Engagement

3,221 School Colleagues
1,155 Schools
3,591 Event Delegates

Media and Policy

107 Press Requests
40 Bitesize Briefings and 26 Stakeholder Briefings
3 Written Evidence Submissions
2 Letters to Ministers
7 MP Roundtables

Networks

National Network of Special Schools for SBPs
CEO Network
SEND and AP Network
44 Events giving valuable Networking Opportunities
SBM Networks across the North East

Events

6 Major Conferences
9 Webinars
4 Online Conferences
25 Single Issue Events

Communications

40 Newsletters sent to 8,000 subscribers
117 Good News Stories from NE Schools shared
35 Partner School opportunities
21,000 Followers on Social Media channels
37,000 Blog Views

Funding for Schools

£90,000 to Fund School Projects
25 Projects
3,500 Children Benefited

Financial Review

In year surplus of £84,500
Gift Aid received £111,000
Highest turnover to date

Governance & People 2022-23

Trustees

The Board of Trustees provides guidance on the Charity's activities and is responsible for its governance with overall legal responsibility for the Charity, its financial sustainability, and its strategic direction. Trustees are elected by Partner Schools, with further Trustees co-opted to add specific expertise where required. In a time when ever-increasing demands on our schools can be a barrier to collaboration, the role of the Board is to ensure that Schools North East meets and responds dynamically to the needs of North East schools and the children and young people they serve, now and in the future.



Chair of Trustees John Hardy OBE
St John Vianney RC Primary School



Colin Lofthouse
SMART Multi Academy Trust



Christina Jones
River Tees Multi
Academy Trust



Jo Heaton OBE
Northern Lights
Learning Trust



Kieran McGrane
Pele Trust



Dame Maura Regan
Bishop Hogarth CET



Zoe Carr OBE
WISE Academies



Pete King
Federation of
Mowden Schools



Kate Chisholm
Oakfield Schools
Federation



Mike Butler
The Education
Village Academy
Trust



Monica Shepherd
Carmel College



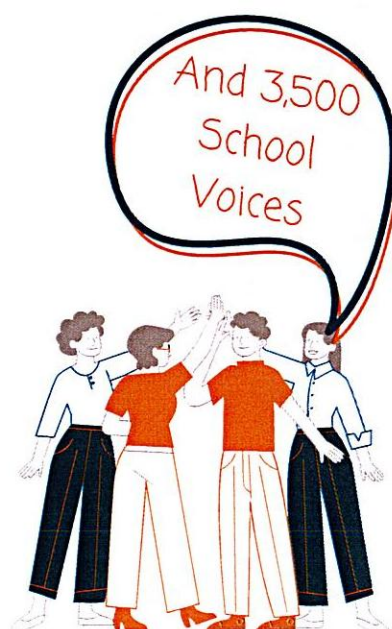
Kieran McLaughlin
Durham School

Schools North East is supported by a range of dedicated North East educators

Head Teacher Advisory Board

A representative group
of Head Teachers and
CEOs from across the
region.

Members



School Business Management Council

A representative group
of School Business
Leaders from across
the region.

Members





Membership 2022-23

Schools North East is a self funding organisation. This keeps us completely **independent**, and only answerable to our schools.

Partner Schools

In 2022-23 our Partner School membership grew by 5%, with **683 schools** now members. We also have 57 Partner Trusts, where all schools in the trust are Partner Schools.

We maintain a high renewal rate of 98% and this year we have had 39 new schools join.

View our Partner Schools



Commercial Supporters

Commercial organisations continue to have strong engagement with the Charity, supporting our vision for our region, the events programme, and our schools.

At the end of 2022-23 we had **144 Commercial Supporter** members, our highest number to date.

All Commercial Supporters have a profile on our MarketPlace and regularly advertise special offers available to members.

View our Commercial Supporters



JOBS IN SCHOOLS | North East

Subscriptions to the Jobs in Schools | North East recruitment portal also continue to grow year on year. At the end of 2022-23 there were **293 schools** using the benefits of the platform, an increase of 7% on the previous year.

Visit Jobs in Schools | North East



Membership Snapshot

683

Partner Schools

57

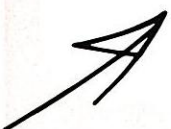
Partner Trusts

293

Jobs Board
Subscribers

144

Commercial
Supporters





Support for Schools

Community Foundation

Schools North East partnered with the Community Foundation to make £90,000 of funding available for schools looking to develop their cultural, sporting or careers provision for disadvantaged and looked-after children. Funding of around £4,000 was available per bid for schools in Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland, Northumberland, North and South Tyneside.

The purpose for this grant was to provide funding in two key areas:

Developing dedicated cultural and sporting enrichment opportunities for students.

Developing high quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG).

Case studies can be found on our Blog.

Projects

- Healthy Me
- History Enrichment
- The Tour of the North East
- Providing Cultural and Social Opportunities for disadvantaged pupils in order to further develop cultural capital
- Tag Archery Enrichment
- Reading Rocks
- Stereotypes
- Hooked on History
- Drama to improve spoken and receptive language
- Rich Experience: Motion for the Ocean
- Community - Explored through The Rivers
- Character Development in Sport & Culture
- Welbeck Academy Football
- Saints Scholar Program
- Embedding cultural capital through outdoor education, physical activity and sport
- Higher Education - Aspirations and Barriers
- Aspirations at Town End
- World of Work Project
- Aspire Project
- Titanic Project
- Sounds from the Quayside
- Churchill Pledges
- PACE
- Girls Network
- Multi Outdoor Sports Area



**Community
Foundation**



Community Foundation Funding Snapshot

25

Projects

£90K

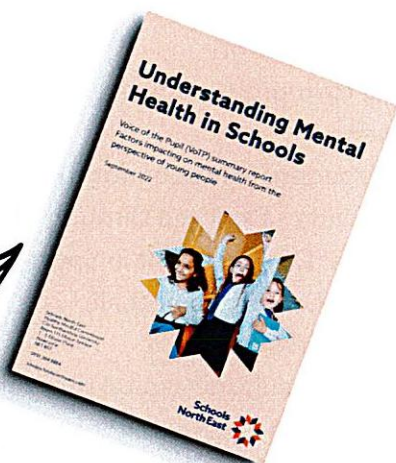
Funding for
Projects

3,500

Children Positively
Impacted

Mental Health

The Schools North East Healthy MindED Commission is working towards establishing a clearer picture of the state of mental health in schools in the North East. One of the main strands of the Healthy MindED Commission was the Voice of the Pupil project. The project engaged children and young people to establish their concerns and experiences, giving the region's pupils a voice to inform direct action in schools that would affect better outcomes for them.



The findings of the project were published in the 22/23 academic year. The report recommends building greater capacity in the system with closer working between schools and external agencies, more regular engagement with young people to develop understanding of what can be done to support good mental health, and an approach to curriculum delivery that ensures tasks and tests are achievable, enjoyable, and rewarding.

Our annual Healthy MindED Conference was held in May 2023. The findings of the Voice of the Pupil project were presented at the conference, and we are now planning to rerun the project, with an initial roundtable in September 2023.

Staff Wellbeing

During and since the pandemic, staff wellbeing has been raised as a key concern. We have continued to investigate staff wellbeing through our 'State of the Region' surveys in 22/23. These surveys are conducted once a term, monitoring the development of key issues.

Staff wellbeing showed an improvement between the Autumn and Spring terms of the 22/23 academic year, however it declined in the Summer term, with fewer school leaders reporting positive wellbeing amongst staff. In the Summer term, 63% of responses said that staff wellbeing was worse or much worse in comparison with a pre-pandemic Summer term.

The main drivers of poor staff wellbeing are workload (especially as a result of increasing numbers of students with complex needs), Ofsted pressures, and increased parental expectations.

You can read our most recent State of the Region results at the following [link](#).



Recruitment and Retention



Jobs in Schools | North East

Policy

With challenges in Recruitment and Retention across the board we continue to support schools with a low cost recruitment portal: Jobs in Schools | North East.

The portal was set up in 2016 by schools for schools and is the place to advertise all North East School vacancies, no matter what the role.

Following discussions with schools we invested in improvements to the portal during this year, and held social media campaigns throughout the year aimed at candidates.

Schools and Trusts pay an annual subscription, which can be as low as £110 but no more than £490, to advertise unlimited jobs.

As part of the service ALL vacancies advertised get:

- Emailed to a bank of almost 4,000 potential candidates
- Promotion across social media channels
- A listing on our website

From caretakers and catering assistants, to senior leaders and class teachers, our platform has helped connect local, hard working education staff with their next opportunity.

In April 2023, we held a virtual roundtable on recruitment and retention, to inform a Schools North East written evidence submission to the House of Commons Education Select Committee.

The key issues that came up were: the increasingly competitive employment environment; the workload challenges caused by schools taking on significant additional responsibilities; the lack of well-developed teacher training that is responsive to the changes in education, and; the failure of education policy to trust and engage with the teaching profession.

While operational challenges around supply have improved since the pandemic, owing to declining Covid-related staff absences, recruitment and retention has consistently been mentioned in feedback in our surveys and roundtables with school leaders in the North East.

You can read the full submission at the following [link](#).



Jobs in Schools | North East Snapshot

2,068

Jobs Advertised

232K

Job Views

4,000

Candidate Bank

Media Engagement 2022-23



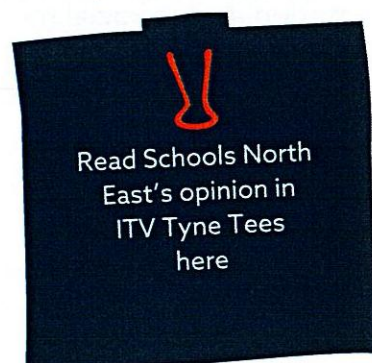
- BBC Radio Newcastle
- Tes
- BBC Look North
- Northern Echo
- iNews
- ITV Tyne Tees
- Schools Week
- The Chronicle
- The Guardian
- ITV News
- The Mirror
- LBC
- BBC Radio 5
- BBC Newsnight
- GB News
- The Financial Times
- Spark Sunderland
- Capital Radio
- BBC Newsround
- Hexham Courant
- BBC News
- BBC Radio Tees
- 5 News
- The Sunday Times

Schools North East is seen as a leading voice in education.

In the 22/23 academic year we were routinely approached by local and national media, from TV, radio, and print.

Press requests were often in response to issues raised by Schools North East in our own press releases and stakeholder briefings.

We had in total 107 press requests in 22/23 covering 40 different topics. We published 14 press releases.



Media Snapshot

107

Press Requests

40

Different Issues Covered

14

Press Releases

Policy 2022-23

Stakeholder Briefings

The regular feedback from our surveys and roundtables on the key issues and challenges our schools are facing inform our Stakeholder Briefings. These briefings share the feedback with influential figures within the education sector, to help them understand the detail of what our schools are facing.

Our stakeholder briefings are sent to a range of contacts, including DfE, Ofsted, the region's MPs and elected mayors, and local and national media. These briefings have generated numerous press requests and queries from the North East's elected representatives.

In the 22/23 academic year, we sent out 26 stakeholder briefings.

Bitesize Briefings

To help support North East schools, we send out Bitesize Briefings about recently published research and analyses on education policy to our **Partner Schools**. These are one page briefings containing the key findings of a given report, as well as setting out the implications for the North East. We sent out 40 Bitesize Briefings in the 22/23 academic year.

Parliament

We sent two letters to ministers in 22/23. The first went to Liz Truss and Rishi Sunak (both at the time as candidates for Prime Minister), looking at the North-South divide in exam results. The second went to the Secretary of State for Education, on school buildings and the condition improvement fund.

We have submitted written evidence to the House of Commons Education Select Committee for the following inquiries:

- Persistent absence and support for disadvantaged pupils
- Teacher recruitment, training, and retention
- Ofsted's work with schools

BITESIZE BRIEFING



Policy Snapshot

40

Bitesize
Briefings

26

Stakeholder
Briefings

3

Written
Evidence
Submissions

2

Letters to
Ministers

Roundtables



Our roundtables are a forum for leaders to discuss the unique challenges of their settings and have proved an excellent forum for feedback on key issues and for school leaders to collaborate and support each other.

We host regular roundtables for North East CEOs and for special and AP school leaders in the region. These are held virtually once every half term.

MP Roundtables

Schools North East also holds MP roundtables, both virtually and in-person. Our MP roundtables are an opportunity for school leaders to engage with their local MP, and to enable the region's representatives in parliament to understand the key issues facing schools. In 22/23, we held roundtables with:

- Peter Gibson, Conservative MP for Darlington
- Catherine McKinnell, Labour MP for Newcastle upon Tyne North
- Richard Holden, Conservative MP for North West Durham
- Chi Onwurah, Labour MP for Newcastle upon Tyne Central
- Paul Howell, Conservative MP for Sedgefield
- Ian Lavery, Labour MP for Wansbeck
- Alex Cunningham, Labour MP for Stockton North

Policy Roundtables

We also hold roundtables on individual policy issues and themes:

- In November 2022, we held an in-person roundtable with Ofqual Chief Regulator, Jo Saxton, to discuss GCSE and A Level exams.
- In March 2023, we held an in-person roundtable with the Northern Powerhouse Partnership. These discussions explored the potentials of regional devolution for education, and will contribute to a report by the NPP.
- In April 2023, we held a virtual roundtable on recruitment and retention, to inform a Schools North East written evidence submission to the House of Commons Education Select Committee.
- In June 2023, we held a virtual roundtable with the North East Child Poverty Commission and IPPR North. These discussions will inform a report by these two organisations, looking to develop a child poverty strategy for the North East.



Roundtables Snapshot

6

CEO
Roundtables

6

SEND and AP
Leader
Roundtables

7

MP
Roundtables

4

Policy
Roundtables

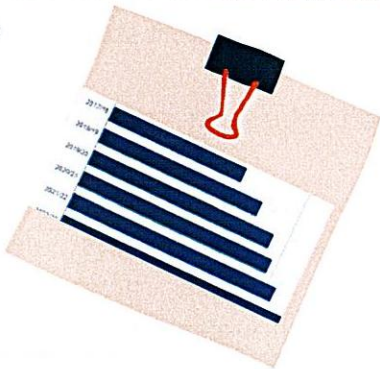
We are the Glue



Partner Schools

This year we have continued to work with and provide support for **Partner Schools**, ensuring they have access to the full range of benefits the network provides. They ensure the Charity meets and responds to the needs of **all North East Schools** and the children and young people they serve, now and in the future. They determine the direction of the Charity through a democratic structure that is **inclusive** and **values all schools equally**.

Each year our Partner School membership grows and now 60% of North East Schools are Partner Schools.



The **Annual Patron's Dinner** was held in March and moved to a new venue to accommodate our growing Partner Schools. Over 400 Partner School colleagues enjoyed an evening of networking and celebration along with special guests from business and academia. This free event for Partner Schools is our way of thanking them for their commitment to the Charity.



Partner School Opportunities

Each year we pass on opportunities to our Partner Schools ranging from participating in research and national voices to awards and offers.

This year we sent out 35 such opportunities.

Reach

As well as the 5% increase in Partner Schools this year, we also saw growth in the amount of individuals engaging with the Charity, which was up 34% on last year. And, as we returned to a more normal year of physical events following the pandemic, delegate numbers were up 13% on last year.

We continued our **roundtables** holding online meetings for CEOs, SEND and AP Leaders, every half term.

These provide a safe space for colleagues to share, discuss and debate challenges they face while supporting and being supported by peers.

Governor/Trustee Matching

To further support schools we launched a Governor/Trustee matching campaign through our database and social media.

We will add to this work in 23/24 with schools able to advertise Governor and Trustee vacancies through the recruitment portal Jobs in Schools | North East.



NNoSS

National Network of Special Schools for School Business Professionals

Powered by
**Schools
North East**



In 2020 Schools North East was commissioned by the Department for Education to facilitate a new National Network of Special, Hospital and Alternative Provision settings for School Business Professionals.

The DfE provided a small amount of funding for the first two years, which finished in 2022. The network is now completely self-funding through memberships and sponsorship from Commercial Partners.

At the end of the year there were 298 members from almost every local authority across England. Members meet online three times a year and in person at a national conference, held in Birmingham in April. Members have access to the Schools North East webinar programme bringing at least 9 webinars throughout the academic year.

NNoSS is a collaborative network to connect and upskill colleagues, and influence decision makers. Working in a culture of collaboration and innovation, the network meets the challenges faced by members and works to create a highly effective and sustainable infrastructure, as well as systems, to support outcomes in specialist settings in England.

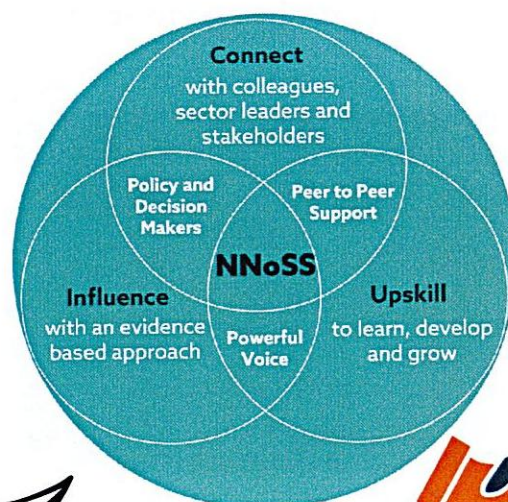
We have amplified the voice of members on the unfair distribution of grants, such as the SSG, to the sector. The DfE listened to these views and are starting to take a more direct approach in their guidance to LAs on additional funds that should be passed on to schools. We will continue to engage with decision makers, ensuring they are aware of the impact of certain decisions on schools.

In the past year we have continued to highlight challenges faced by the sector, including:

- Responding to the SEND Review
- Highlighting growing costs, including those schools with Hydro Pools
- Unfunded pay awards for school staff, in particular support staff
- Deficit budgets caused by growing costs

Peer to peer support is strong within the network and over the past year almost 1,000 different threads have shared advice, support, resources and ideas. As well as an active email group the network has an online community.

During the past year members have given views directly to the DfE on the SEND review and discussed challenges with benchmarking in the sector with Entrust.



Events 2022-23



Overview

Our annual events programme provides valuable opportunities for North East school staff to network with colleagues from across the region, and collaborate on key issues affecting their roles and schools. It is also a forum for staff to hear from leading and senior figures in the education sector and to offer quality continuous professional development which will support them in their roles. This year was the first 'normal' year since returning to physical events post-Covid. We are delighted to see attendee and sponsorship levels return to 'normal' and some of our events, including the Patrons Dinner and the Academies Conference, were the biggest to date. As well as our annual physical events, we had a successful year hosting 9 'general' webinars within our 3 main strands plus 9 single issue webinars.

Annual events 22/23
What's happening this year?

SNE Events

Summit 2022 Date: Thurs 6 October Venue: St James' Park, Newcastle Upon Tyne Time: 9:00 - 16:00 Audience: Head Teachers, School Senior Leaders	Ofsted Update 22 Date: Thursday 24 November Venue: Linskill Centre, North Shields Time: 2 x Half day events Audience: School leaders, SLT, Teaching & Learning Leads, Chairs of Governance	Academies Conference 2023 Date: Thurs 16 January Venue: St James' Park, Newcastle Time: 9:00 - 16:00 Audience: CEOs, CFOs, COOs, Head Teachers, SMs, Senior Leaders
Governance Conference Date: Weds 15 & Thurs 16 Feb Venue: Virtual via Zoom Time: 16:00 - 18:00 Audience: Chairs, Governors, Clerks, School Leaders	Curriculum Conference 23 Date: Thursday 2 March Venue: The Fod, Gateshead Time: 9:00 - 16:00 Audience: SLT, Teaching & Learning Leads, Head of Departments	Annual Patron's Dinner 23 Date: Thursday 16 March Audience: School Leaders, Partner Schools only
Healthy Minded 23 Date: Thursday 18 May Venue: Riverside Stadium, Middlesbrough Time: 9:00 - 16:00 Audience: School Leaders, SENCOs, Wellbeing Leads, Pastoral	SBM Conference 23 Date: Thursday 15 June Venue: St James' Park, Newcastle Upon Tyne Time: 9:00 - 16:00 Audience: SBMs, CFOs, COOs, HR, Finance, Admin, School Leaders and other SBPs	Partner Schools Summer Reception 23 Date: Summer 2023 Audience: School Leaders, Partner Schools only
Annual NNoSS Conference Date: Thursday 27 April Venue: Birmingham Football Club, Birmingham Audience: School Business Professionals from Special, AP and Hospital Schools	Webinars SBM, Governance, Recruitment & Retention	The Northern Education Celebration of Education 2023 Date: Friday 7 July Audience: Teaching practitioners of all levels

* timings subject to change

Search for our full calendar of events at www.schoolsnortheast.com/events

PS Partner Schools only | Events for all to attend | NNoSS event Powered by SNE | EdNorth event Powered by SNE

Highlights

- Over 270 trust leaders attended the Academies Conference 2023.
- We were joined by over 400 guests at our annual Patron's Dinner, our largest dinner to date along with guest speaker Rt Reverend John Sentamu.
- Bridget Phillipson MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Education who addressed an audience of trust and academy leaders at our annual Academies Conference 2023.
- Held 7 MP roundtables around the region.
- Provided five events officially accredited by the CPD Certification Service - Healthy MindED Conference 2023, annual Governance Conference 2023, annual Curriculum Conference 2023, School Business Management Conference 2023 & Cyber Resilience Event.
- Supported Ednorth and NNoSS (the National Network of Special Schools) with the planning and delivery of their events including TeachMeets, networking conferences and the second physical NNoSS Conference.

WEBINARS 22/23 SNE Events

NOVEMBER Energy Market Update	NOVEMBER Healthier Together App	NOVEMBER Academisation: Top Tips for Governors
DECEMBER Safer Recruitment & Online Searches	DECEMBER Creative Careers & Pathways	JANUARY NHS Health Update
FEBRUARY Dealing with Complaints in Schools	MARCH Taking Your Catering in-house and the Benefits	MARCH Tackling the Teaching Assistant Shortage
MAY How to Maximise your Employment Benefits	JUNE Benefits of Buying from Compliant Frameworks	MAY Update on Governors Duties - Lessons Learnt from this year

As a Partner School, you have access to Schools North East Webinars completely FREE.

To support you further, we are now sharing this document with you so you can access the 22/23 webinar recordings throughout the next academic year. Click on the webinar you would like to view the recording for, register if you haven't already and view the webinar wherever, whenever.

CLICK HERE TO SUGGEST A WEBINAR TOPIC FOR 23/24

Event support “

Schools North East had more opportunities than ever for organisations and our Commercial and Educational Supporters to get in front of school decision makers and leaders during 23/24. Our annual Summit, School Business Management Conference, Healthy MindED Conference, Curriculum Conference and NNoSS annual conference exhibitions were all sold out.

In total, 141 organisations exhibited across our events in 22/23.

“Extremely well organised. The audience was very much aligned with what we were promoting. I feel like the event was targeted to the correct people and therefore was exactly what we were looking for.”

School Business Management Conference 2023 Exhibitor”

“It was a very well attended event and there were many areas in which our company could offer support to delegates and their schools/MATs.”

Academies Conference 2023 Exhibitor”



Image: School Business Management Conference 2023 exhibition.

While 2022/23 saw a near return to normal of the events programme following the pandemic, it still brought some challenges. Three of our large events were impacted by teacher strikes and we took the decision to postpone our annual Northern Celebration of Education (CelebrateEd), which fell on the final strike date of the academic year.

A selection of our events are CPD accredited.



CPD
CERTIFIED
The CPD Certification Service
Collective Mark

Events snapshot

6

Major Conferences

3500

Delegates

17

Single Issue Events

9

Webinars

4

Online Conferences

2022/23 Events



- Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- Annual Summit 2022
- MP Roundtable - Darlington
- MP Roundtable - Newcastle North
- White Paper Academisation Event North
- White Paper Academisation Event South
- SBM Webinar - Energy Market Update & Contract Advice
- NNoSS Virtual Networking Conference
- NHS Healthier Together Website Webinar
- Roundtable - Ofqual Chief Regulator, Jo Saxton
- Ednorth TeachMeet - Attendance
- MP Roundtable - North West Durham
- Ofsted Update Event AM
- Ofsted Update Event PM
- Academisation: Top Tips for Governors Webinar
- Safer Recruitment & Online Searches Webinar
- Creative Careers and Pathways Webinar
- NHS Health Update for Schools Webinar
- Ednorth TeachMeet - Feedback
- Annual Academies Conference 2023
- NNoSS Virtual Networking Conference
- Annual Governance Conference ONLINE 2023
- Annual Curriculum Conference 2023
- MP Roundtable - Newcastle Central
- Taking your Catering in House Webinar
- Dealing with Complaints in Schools Webinar
- MP Roundtable - Sedgefield
- Annual Patron's Dinner 2023
- Ednorth TeachMeet - Literacy
- Tackling the Teaching Assistant Shortage Webinar
- Recruitment & Retention Inquiry Roundtable
- NNoSS Annual Physical Conference 2023
- How to Maximise your Employment Benefits Webinar
- Annual Healthy MindED Conference 2023
- Cyber Resilience Event
- Ednorth Teachmeet - SEND
- NNoSS Virtual Networking Conference
- Annual School Business Management Conference 2023
- Benefits of Buying from Compliant Frameworks Webinar
- MP Roundtable - Wansbeck
- Update on Governors Duties - Lessons Learnt from this Year Webinar
- MP Roundtable - Stockton North

ANNUAL EVENTS 23/24 SNE Events

Booking forms will be linked once delegate bookings are open. For Partner School events, your schools point of contact will receive a direct invitation from Schools North East.

AGM 2023 DATE Thursday 28 September TIME 12.30 - 15.30 VENUE The Linskill Centre, North Shields AUDIENCE Exclusively for Schools North East Partner Schools, by invitation only	ANNUAL SUMMIT 2023 DATE Thursday 19 October TIME 09.00 - 16.00 VENUE St James Park, Newcastle Upon Tyne AUDIENCE Head Teachers, School Senior Leaders, CEOs	OFSTED UPDATE 2023 DATE Thursday 16 November TIME 09.00 - 13.00 VENUE The Durham Centre, Durham AUDIENCE School Leaders, Teaching & Learning Leads, Chairs of Governance
GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE 2023 DATE Wed 29 & Thursday 30 November TIME 16.00 - 18.00 VENUE Virtual, via Zoom AUDIENCE Chairs, Governors, Clerks, School Leaders	ACADEMIES CONFERENCE 2024 DATE Thursday 25 January TIME 09.00 - 16.00 VENUE The Grand Hotel, Gosforth Park, Newcastle AUDIENCE CEOs, CFOs, COOs, Head Teachers, SBMs, Senior Leaders	CURRICULUM CONFERENCE 2024 DATE Thursday 29 February TIME 09.00 - 16.00 VENUE TBC AUDIENCE School leaders, Teaching & Learning Leads, Teaching Practitioners, Heads of Departments
PATRON'S DINNER 2024 DATE Thursday 14 March VENUE The Grand Hotel, Gosforth Park, Newcastle AUDIENCE Exclusively for Schools North East Partner Schools, by invitation only	HEALTHY MINDED 2024 DATE Thursday 16 May TIME 09.00 - 16.00 VENUE TBC AUDIENCE School Leaders, SENCOs, Wellbeing Leads, Pastoral	SBM CONFERENCE 2024 DATE Thursday 13 June TIME 09.00 - 16.00 VENUE St James Park, Newcastle Upon Tyne AUDIENCE SBMs, CFOs, COOs, HR, Finance, Admin, School Leaders and other SBMs
NNOSS CONFERENCE 2024 DATE Thursday 25 April TIME 09.00 - 16.00 VENUE TBC AUDIENCE School Business Professionals from Special, AP and Hospital Schools	KEY Opens to all Schools PS Partner Schools Only NS National Network of Special Schools, Powered by SNE EC Ednorth event, Powered by SNE All in a Partner School? Find out more about becoming a Partner School	NORTHERN CELEBRATION OF EDUCATION 2024 DATE Friday 5 July TIME 09.00 - 15.00 VENUE Students Union, Northumbria University, Newcastle AUDIENCE Teaching Practitioners of all levels



Communications 2022-23



Amplifying your voice

Because of your support, the voice we give to our region's schools has grown louder and louder over the years.

In 2007, our range of activities were very limited, reflecting our age and budget. But 15 years later, it's now difficult to explain the full extent of SNE's activities; their complexity, scope, reach, and impact. Great work by everyone involved.

Newsletter (Weekly Update)

Our newsletter continues to grow and is now sent to almost 8,000 subscribers, out performing industry averages with an open rate of 27% and a click through rate of 3.6% compared to the education industry averages of 23% and 2.9% respectively.

In 2022-23 we sent out 40 Weekly Updates.

Good New Stories

To showcase a positive narrative of North East education, and to highlight the fantastic work of the region's schools, we strongly feature good news stories from across North East schools. In 2022-23 we featured 117 such stories. These can be found under 'Regional News' on our blog.

Blog

We use our blog to host all stories, and in the past twelve months, this has been viewed more than 37,000 times.

As well as being in the Weekly Update, blog stories are also shared across our social media channels.

Social Media

We regularly updated our social media channels with information regarding our events, policy changes, regional and national news, and more.

We currently have over 8,800 followers on X (formerly known as Twitter), and over 2,300 on LinkedIn.

From 1 August 22 to 31 July 23, we had 188,189 impressions on Twitter, and 292 new followers.

On LinkedIn, the Schools North East page achieved 2,328 views and 551 new followers.

COMING SOON: A Facebook and TikTok page!



Communications Snapshot

290k

Weekly Update
Emails Sent Out

37k

Views on Our Blog

11k

Combined Social
Media Followers

17k

Total Email
Contacts

Schools North East Trading

This is the end of SNET's ninth full year of trading.

Income increased this year, as our events programme reverted back to physical events following the pandemic.

The Trading Arm was incorporated on 15 August 2014 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Schools North East. It is a company limited by guarantee and was set up to fulfill the Trustees' obligation to use a trading subsidiary where there is any potential of substantial risk to Schools North East through any of its activities. Schools North East Trading Ltd (SNET) donates all of its profits to Schools North East the charity, and makes a very significant contribution to its continuing financial success.

Financial Review 2022-23

Schools North East remains financially strong with income from all sources, maintaining a sustainable financial level post-pandemic.

The majority of expenditure is related to staffing and infrastructure, to service the needs of members and the delivery of events, CPD, communications and other support. The organisation's non-staff overheads remain very low, as a result of our longstanding relationship with, and support from, Northumbria University.

For 2022/23 Schools North East received £111,288 in gift-aid payments from Schools North East Trading Limited.

Schools North East employed four members of staff at the start of the 2022/23 financial year:

- DIRECTOR
- RELATIONSHIP MANAGER
- POLICY OFFICER
- MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

And, Schools North East Trading employed seven members of staff:

- DEPUTY DIRECTOR
- EVENTS MANAGER
- DEPUTY EVENTS MANAGER
- EVENTS COORDINATOR
- FINANCE OFFICER
- ADMINISTRATOR
- DIGITAL APPRENTICE



Financial Review 2022-23

Financial Controls

Schools North East continues to develop more accurate and sophisticated approaches to financial and strategic planning. We can effectively monitor and forecast income and expenditure, manage cash-flow and maintain the financial health of the organisation. As we moved out of the pandemic, Trustees continued to monitor the financial position of the charity.

Review of the year

The results for the year and the company's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

During the year, the Charity had an income of £589,774 (2022: £569,663) and expenditure of £505,355 (2022: £523,014). Net income for the year was £84,419 (2022: £46,649)

At 31 July 2023 the Charity had net assets of £446,432 (2022: £362,013)

Governing Document

The organisation is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Charitable Company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of a winding up any member (who is a director) undertakes to contribute to the payment of liabilities, such amount as may be required not exceeding the total of £1.

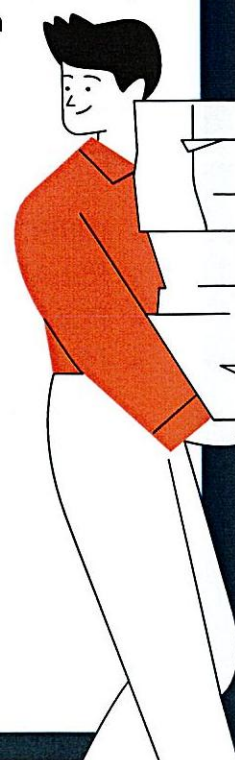
Reserves policy/No reserves/Going concern

The Trustees reviewed the requirement for free reserves throughout 2022/23, which are those funds not invested in fixed assets or otherwise committed. Based on their reviews they continue to believe that Schools North East requires three months' worth of operating expenditure. At 31 July 2023, 'free' reserves amounted to £446,432, which is well in excess of that amount.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Board

The Directors of the Company are also Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are also its members. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, at the Annual General Meeting one-third of the Directors, who are subject to retirement by rotation, shall retire. Retiring Directors can be re-appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

Trustees are elected by Partner Schools on the basis of specialist skills and commitment to the objectives and aims of the organisation, having served on the Head Teacher Advisory Board. They are also Partner School Members.



Board Induction and Training

New Board Members are introduced to the work of the organisation and informed of their legal roles and responsibilities at an induction meeting. The induction and training programme for new Board Members includes:

- A briefing by the Director
- An explanation of roles and responsibilities as a Board Member
- Copies of the main company documents including the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Financial Statements
- Copy of the business plan and most recent evaluation report
- Copies of recent board papers including budgets and management accounts
- A copy of the Charity Commission publication "How to be an Effective Trustee"
- A copy of the governance structure

Risk Management

The Board is responsible for the management of the risks to which the Charity is exposed. A risk register is produced which considers financial, governance and delivery risks.

For each risk, the register identifies:

- Initial risk assessment in terms of impact and likelihood
- Initial risk rating
- Counter measures - Responsibility / ownership
- Timescale
- Amended risk assessment in terms of impact and likelihood
- Amended risk rating

The Board reviews the risk register throughout the year. Through the counter measures put in place in the risk register, and the regular reviews and updates, the Board is satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated. It is recognised that this approach can only provide reasonable -- but not absolute -- assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.



Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors 2022-23

Registered charity name:

Schools North East

Charity number:

1129594

Company registration number:

06450637

Registered office:

Room 115, Ellison Terrace
Ellison Place
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 8ST

Bankers:

Barclays Bank
59 High Street
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 4AS

Independent Examiner

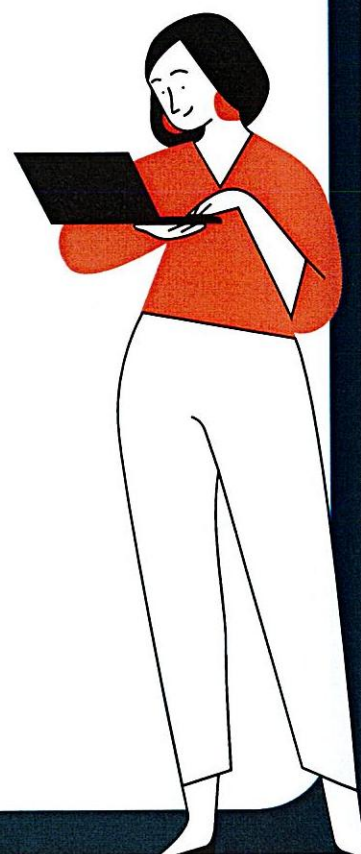
Lilian Hetherington FCA
Connected Voice Business Services Ltd
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX

Trustees and Members of the Board:

John Hardy (Chair)
Jo Heaton (Vice Chair)
Kieran McGrane (Vice Chair)
Colin Lofthouse
Zoe Carr
Kate Chisholm
Pete King
Kieran McLaughlin
Mike Butler
Maura Regan
Monica Shepherd
Christina Jones

Director and Senior staff members:

Director: Chris Zarraga
Deputy Director: Pauline Aitchison



Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

2022-23

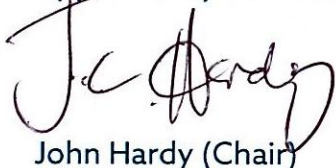
The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Board on 13 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



John Hardy (Chair)



SCHOOLS NORTH EAST

A company limited by guarantee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 July 2023

I report on the financial statements of Schools North East for the year ended 31 July 2023, which are set out on pages 30 to 40

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

I 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.

Lilian Hetherington FCA
Connected Voice Business Services
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX



Date: 13/12/2023

SCHOOLS NORTH EAST

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING THE INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 July 2023

	Notes	General Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income:					
Income from charitable activities:					
Fees and grants	7	186,783	-	186,783	228,006
Income from other trading activities:					
Trading subsidiary income	8	402,991	-	402,991	341,657
Total income		589,774	-	589,774	569,663
Expenditure					
Costs of raising funds:					
Trading subsidiary costs	9	291,703	-	291,703	239,551
Expenditure on charitable activities:					
Operation of the charity	10	213,652	-	213,652	283,463
Total expenditure		505,355	-	505,355	523,014
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		84,419	-	84,419	46,649
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		362,013	-	362,013	315,364
Total funds carried forward		446,432	-	446,432	362,013

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 33 to 40 form an integral part of these financial statements.

SCHOOLS NORTH EAST

A company limited by guarantee

Company number 06450637

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 July 2023

	Notes	Group		Charity	
		2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>					
Tangible assets	19	1,252	1,917	1,252	1,917
Total Fixed Assets		1,252	1,917	1,252	1,917
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors and prepayments	21	50,187	56,656	155,647	187,411
Cash at bank and in hand		495,503	456,976	335,666	265,859
Total Current Assets		545,690	513,632	491,313	453,270
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Creditors falling due within one year	22	(100,510)	(153,536)	(46,133)	(93,174)
Net Current Assets		445,180	360,096	445,180	360,096
Total assets less current liabilities		446,432	362,013	446,432	362,013
Net Assets		446,432	362,013	446,432	362,013
<u>The funds of the charity</u>					
Restricted income funds		-	-	-	-
General unrestricted income funds		446,432	362,013	446,432	362,013
Total charity funds		446,432	362,013	446,432	362,013

The company was entitled to an exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

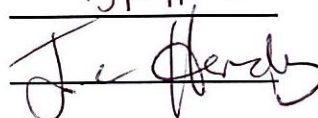
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with the respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

The notes on pages 33 to 40 form an integral part of these financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on:

and are signed on its behalf by: John Hardy
Chair

13/09/23


SCHOOLS NORTH EAST

A company limited by guarantee

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
<u>Cash flows from operating activities</u>		
Net movement in funds	84,419	46,649
Depreciation	665	770
Decrease in debtors	6,469	13,731
Decrease in creditors	(53,026)	103,745
<i>Net cash from operating activities</i>	<u>38,527</u>	<u>164,895</u>
<u>Cash flow from investing activities</u>		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	(1,272)
<i>Net cash used in investing activities</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,272)</u>
 Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	 38,527	 163,623
Cash and cash equivalents at start of year	456,976	293,353
<i>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</i>	<u><u>495,503</u></u>	<u><u>456,976</u></u>
 Cash and cash equivalents consist of:		
Cash at bank and in hand	<u><u>495,503</u></u>	<u><u>456,976</u></u>

The notes on pages 33 to 40 form an integral part of these financial statements.

SCHOOLS NORTH EAST

A company limited by guarantee

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 July 2023

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011

Schools North East meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In making their assessment the trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including their annual budget and future cash flows. Based on their review of this information, the trustees are of the opinion that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

SCHOOLS NORTH EAST

A company limited by guarantee

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 July 2023

3.5 Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies

Membership subscriptions which give a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

3.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities' work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of advancement of education in the North East and other

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts

4.6 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Office and computer equipment	Straight line over four years
-------------------------------	-------------------------------

SCHOOLS NORTH EAST

A company limited by guarantee

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 July 2023

6 The summary financial performance of the charity alone is:

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income	186,783	228,006
Gift aid from subsidiary company	111,288	102,106
	298,071	330,112
Expenditure on charitable activities	213,652	283,463
Net income/(expenditure)	84,419	46,649
Total funds brought forward	362,013	315,364
Total funds carried forward	446,432	362,013
Represented by:		
Restricted income funds	-	-
General unrestricted income funds	446,432	362,013
	446,432	362,013

Analysis of income

	General Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
7 Income from charitable activities				
School Membership Fees	133,392	-	133,392	101,789
Commercial membership fees	50,925	-	50,925	48,000
Advertising sponsorship	2,466	-	2,466	785
Other income	-	-	-	500
<u>Grants</u>				
Shine Trust	-	-	-	46,250
Department for Education	-	-	-	20,000
Community Foundation	-	-	-	10,000
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	682
	186,783	-	186,783	228,006

8 Income from other trading activities

Trading subsidiary				
Conferences and events	402,991	-	402,991	341,657
	402,991	-	402,991	341,657

Income was £589,779 (2022: £569,663) of which £589,779 was unrestricted or designated (2022: £503,413) and £0 was restricted (2022: £66,250).

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Analysis of expenditure

	General Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
9 Costs of raising funds				
Trading subsidiary costs				
Staff costs	159,532	-	159,532	140,770
Direct costs	113,277	-	113,277	88,126
Overheads	18,894	-	18,894	10,655
	<u>291,703</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>291,703</u>	<u>239,551</u>
10 Charitable activities				
<u>Direct Costs</u>				
Advancement of education in the North East	205,588	-	205,588	275,514
Depreciation	665	-	665	770
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Trustees meeting costs and AGM	169	-	169	1,333
Legal fees	5,840	-	5,840	4,607
Independent examiners fees	1,390	-	1,390	1,239
	<u>213,652</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>213,652</u>	<u>283,463</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities and raising funds was £505,355 (2022: £523,014) of which £505,355 was unrestricted or designated (2022: £456,764) and £0 was restricted (2022: £66,250).

11 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	2023 £	2022 £
This is stated after charging :		
Depreciation	665	770
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,390	1,239
Other accountancy services provided by the examiner	2,054	2,671
	<u>4,109</u>	<u>4,680</u>

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12 Analysis of staff costs, and the cost of key management personnel

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	302,229	323,513
Employer's National Insurance costs	27,195	29,538
Employer's pension costs	6,761	6,139
	<u>336,185</u>	<u>359,190</u>

	2023 Number	2022 Number
£70,000 to £80,000	-	1
£110,000 to £120,000	1	-

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the Trustees, the Board and the Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £115,986 (2022: £78,440). The key management personnel pay is higher than in 2022 due to a payment for back pay covering the last four financial years, in the year of £42,232 (2022 £0).

13 Staff Numbers

The average monthly head count was 10 staff (2022: 11 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
The parts of the charity in which the employees work.		
Charitable activities	10.0	11.0
	<u>10.0</u>	<u>11.0</u>

14 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity. (2022 none)

15 Trustees' expenses

No trustees' expenses have been incurred in the year (2022 none).

16 Transactions with related parties

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or other transactions entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2022 none).

17 Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £6,761 (2022: £6,139). There was £nil outstanding as at 31 July 2023 (2022: £nil).

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For the year ended 31 July 2023

18 Corporation taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

19 Tangible fixed assets

	Charity		Group	
	Office equipment £	Total £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
Balance brought forward	6,908	6,908	-	6,908
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	6,908	6,908	-	6,908
Depreciation				
Balance brought forward	4,991	4,991	-	4,991
Depreciation charge for year	665	665	-	665
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	5,656	5,656	-	5,656
Net book value				
Brought forward	1,917	1,917	-	1,917
Carried forward	1,252	1,252	-	1,252

20 Fixed asset investment

Investment in subsidiary company

The charitable company has a wholly-owned UK subsidiary company, Schools North East Trading Ltd. The principal activity of the company during the year was educational support services. A summary of the company's results and balance sheet for the year ended 31 July 2023 is as follows:

The summary financial performance of the subsidiary alone is:

	2023 £	2022 £
Turnover	402,991	341,657
Cost of sales	(113,277)	(88,126)
Administration costs	(178,426)	(151,425)
Net profit	111,288	102,106
Amount gift aided to parent charity	(111,288)	(102,106)
Retained in subsidiary	-	-

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For the year ended 31 July 2023

20 Fixed asset investment continued

	2023 £	2022 £
The assets and liabilities were:		
Current assets	119,229	176,204
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(119,227)	(176,202)
Total net assets	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Called up share capital	2	2
Profit and loss account	-	-
Equity attributable to the parent	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

21 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	Group		Charity	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	50,187	56,656	15,135	7,068
Other debtors	-	-	-	-
Amounts due from subsidiary undertakings	-	-	140,512	180,343
	<u>50,187</u>	<u>56,656</u>	<u>155,647</u>	<u>187,411</u>

22 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	Group		Charity	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	12,212	728	5,561	74
Taxation and social security	26,953	32,923	3,556	2,829
Deferred income	58,805	60,912	-	-
Amounts due to subsidiary undertakings	-	-	35,626	35,708
Accruals				
Preparation of statutory accounts	2,540	4,281	1,390	2,419
Other creditors	-	54,692	-	52,144
	<u>100,510</u>	<u>153,536</u>	<u>46,133</u>	<u>93,174</u>

Deferred income

	2023 £
Balance brought forward	60,912
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(60,912)
Amount deferred in year	58,805
Balance carried forward	<u>58,805</u>

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23 Analysis of charitable funds**Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds**

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
General unrestricted fund	362,013	589,774	(505,355)	-	446,432
Totals	362,013	589,774	(505,355)	-	446,432

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund The 'free reserves' of the charity.

24 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,252	-	1,252	1,917
Cash at bank and in hand	495,503	-	495,503	456,976
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(50,323)	-	(50,323)	(96,880)
	446,432	-	446,432	362,013

