SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

England & Wales · Charity number 1134094

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	06657048
Registered	2010-02-04
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Blackfriars Settlement 9 Rushworth Street London SE1 0RB
Phone	02088788333
Email	enquiries@schoolfoodmatters.org
Website	www.schoolfoodmatters.org

Activities

Objects: 4. THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION AND PROMOTE THE HEALTH OF SCHOOLCHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:4.1 DEVELOPING AND IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF FOOD, FOOD PRODUCTION, HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD PRODUCTION AMONGST LOCAL AUTHORITIES, SCHOOLS, PUPILS AND THEIR FAMILIES, SCHOOL CATERERS AND OTHERS; AND4.2 ENCOURAGING AND MONITORING GOOD PRACTICE IN THE PROVISION OF AND ACCESS TO FRESH AND NUTRITIONALLY HEALTHY FOOD IN SCHOOLS.

Activities: School Food Matters exists to teach children about food and to improve children's access to healthy, sustainable food during their time at school. We provide fully-funded food education programmes to schools. Our experience delivering these programmes informs and strengthens our campaigns, bringing the voices of children, parents and teachers to government policy.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Scotland
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£1,547,744	£1,521,940	£174,110	22
2024-08-31	£1,217,527	£1,188,195	£148,306	18
2023-08-31	£1,217,861	£1,193,560	£118,974	19
2022-08-31	£802,042	£930,987	£94,673	19
2021-08-31	£1,524,813	£1,458,461	£223,618	14

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Katrina Bowles	Chair	2024-01-19
Alayna Francis		2020-01-22
BEN REYNOLDS		
Clare Pettinger		2026-01-22
Jared Brading		2013-02-13
MAX GASTON BEAZLEY		2011-09-28
Mecca Ibrahim		2023-10-19
Ossie Gray		2013-11-04
Paul Smith		2015-01-08

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SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1134094

Accounts



SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 August 2025

Registered Company Number: 06657048 • Registered Charity Number: 1134094



Contents

A word from our Chair of Trustees	3
Impact of our programmes	4
Report of the Trustees	6
Independent auditors' report	22
Statement of financial activities	27
Balance sheet	28
Cash flow statement	29
Notes to the financial statements	30

A word from our Chair of Trustees

This year is my last as Chair of Trustees and what a wonderful year of celebration it's been, with two significant campaign victories and recognition for our Chief Executive. And 2025 was the year we published our ambitious strategy for 2025–2030 with a focus on scaling our impact across the country.

School Food Matters (SFM) knows that food is fundamental to children's health, happiness and their ability to learn, and schools have the power to nurture positive relationships with food that can last a lifetime. That's why the team at SFM works hard to ensure that each of the 2,660 lunches served to a child during their time at school, from reception to Year 13, is delicious and nutritious. Our Nourish programme has now reached 214 schools in eight local authorities, getting the very best out of the school meal service through targeted engagement with children, young people, school staff, senior leaders, governors and parents. This evidence–based intervention, which started life in two London boroughs, has been commissioned in new regions across the country including Birmingham, Cumberland and Hertfordshire.

Our experience working in schools also informs our advocacy, bringing the voices of teaching staff, children and families to the policy table. This year we saw two major campaign wins: the extension of free school meals to an additional 500,000 children from families receiving Universal Credit, and a commitment to review the school food standards so that all food at school supports children's health and happiness. These hard–won policy commitments represent years of collaborative campaigning through the School Food Review, a coalition founded by School Food Matters in 2021, supported by Impact on Urban Health.

Team SFM has grown this year with 22 core staff in London and a further 25 freelancers supporting our projects around the country. We've embraced opportunities to bring the whole team together for training workshops and strategy sessions in London and Birmingham, living our values of equity, openness, partnership and, of course, joy and optimism.

And, last but not least, this was the year our Founder and Chief Executive, Stephanie Slater, was recognised for her tireless efforts to improve the lives of children and young people through good school food. In January she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Roehampton for achievements and contributions to children's health and school food. In June she received an MBE for services to children and young people. These honours rightly highlight and celebrate Stephanie's inspirational leadership on school food transformation at the school, local authority and national policy levels. As trustees we are immensely proud of these significant honours and the impact she and SFM have achieved this year.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as a trustee since 2019, and as Chair of SFM. Food matters to children and young people not only because it provides fuel for growth and development, but because it influences how they express themselves and connect with others. Recent government investment recognises that school food is a vital resource but further work is needed to ensure the potential of the school food system is realised. I wish the incoming Chair – Katrina Bowles – the board, and Stephanie and the SFM team every success in continuing their important work to ensure schools can meet every child's right to nutritious food.

Professor Rebecca O'Connell
Chair of Trustees

350,000

Since 2012, more than **350,000 children and young people** across England have benefitted from our projects in schools*

58,756

This year, an incredible **58,756 children and young people** took part in our programmes across **410 primary and secondary schools** – the highest number in the history of School Food Matters.

£7,000

Through Young Marketeers, Know Your Onions and Schools to Market, children didn't just grow produce, they sold it too. Together, they raised **over £7,000 for charities** including *FareShare, Plan Zheroes* and local foodbanks.

Our biggest year yet!



Supporting schools across London to transform their food environment

Alongside our education programmes, we delivered Nourish in more areas across London, supporting schools in **Ealing, Southwark, Lambeth and Hillingdon**.

We also launched the Nourish programme in **Westminster** for the first time.

Through these programmes, we worked with **127 schools** and reached **more than 10,000 children and young people**, supporting schools to implement a whole-school approach to food.

*The figure reflects cumulative programme data since 2012. School Food Matters collects both qualitative and quantitative data from each and every programme in order to ensure that we are on track, making an impact and delivering our mission.



Young Marketeers

our furthest reach ever

Young Marketeers, our flagship food education programme, reached more children in more places than ever before. The project was delivered in **14 cities** by our amazing local project officers and gardeners and involved more than **13,000 children**. From the 442 children who shared their feedback, the impact is clear:

83%

learned **how to talk to customers and engage with the public**

81%

learned a **new gardening skill**

81%

developed **teamwork skills**

77%

became **more interested in selling what they made**

76%

felt **more interested in growing fruit and vegetables**

62%

felt **calm and relaxed** whilst cooking or gardening

The project continues to support children to learn new skills, grow in confidence and nurture their wellbeing. We look forward to the year ahead and the chance to scale the project even further.

Report of the Trustees



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 August 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).

Objectives and activities

Our mission

School Food Matters believes that school food can unlock a happier, healthier, more sustainable future for every child. We want to see a school food system that delivers for every child, so that:

- every child eats nutritious, delicious and sustainable food during their time at school
- every child leaves school with an informed and positive relationship with food

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the charity are to advance the education, and promote the health, of school children and their families in particular but not exclusively by:

- developing and improving knowledge and understanding of food, food production, health and sustainable food production amongst local authorities, schools, pupils and their families, school caterers and others
- encouraging and monitoring good practice in the provision of and access to fresh and nutritionally healthy food in schools

Activities

School Food Matters provides fully funded food education programmes to schools. Our experience delivering these programmes informs and strengthens our campaigns, bringing the voices of children, parents and teachers to government policy. The charity is engaged in the following activities:

- campaigning for a better school food system
- supporting schools, local authorities and multi–academy trusts to improve food in schools
- teaching children and young people about cooking, growing and enjoying food for their health and happiness

Public benefit

The Trustees are aware of Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011. They believe School Food Matters fulfils a fundamental public benefit by promoting the health, and advancing the education, of school children and their families.

About School Food Matters

School Food Matters began life as a grassroots campaign in one London borough. Since 2007 it has blossomed into a national charity and is now a leader in the movement for the transformation of school food. We work with policymakers, local authorities, multi–academy trusts (MATs), individual schools and the children and young people we serve.

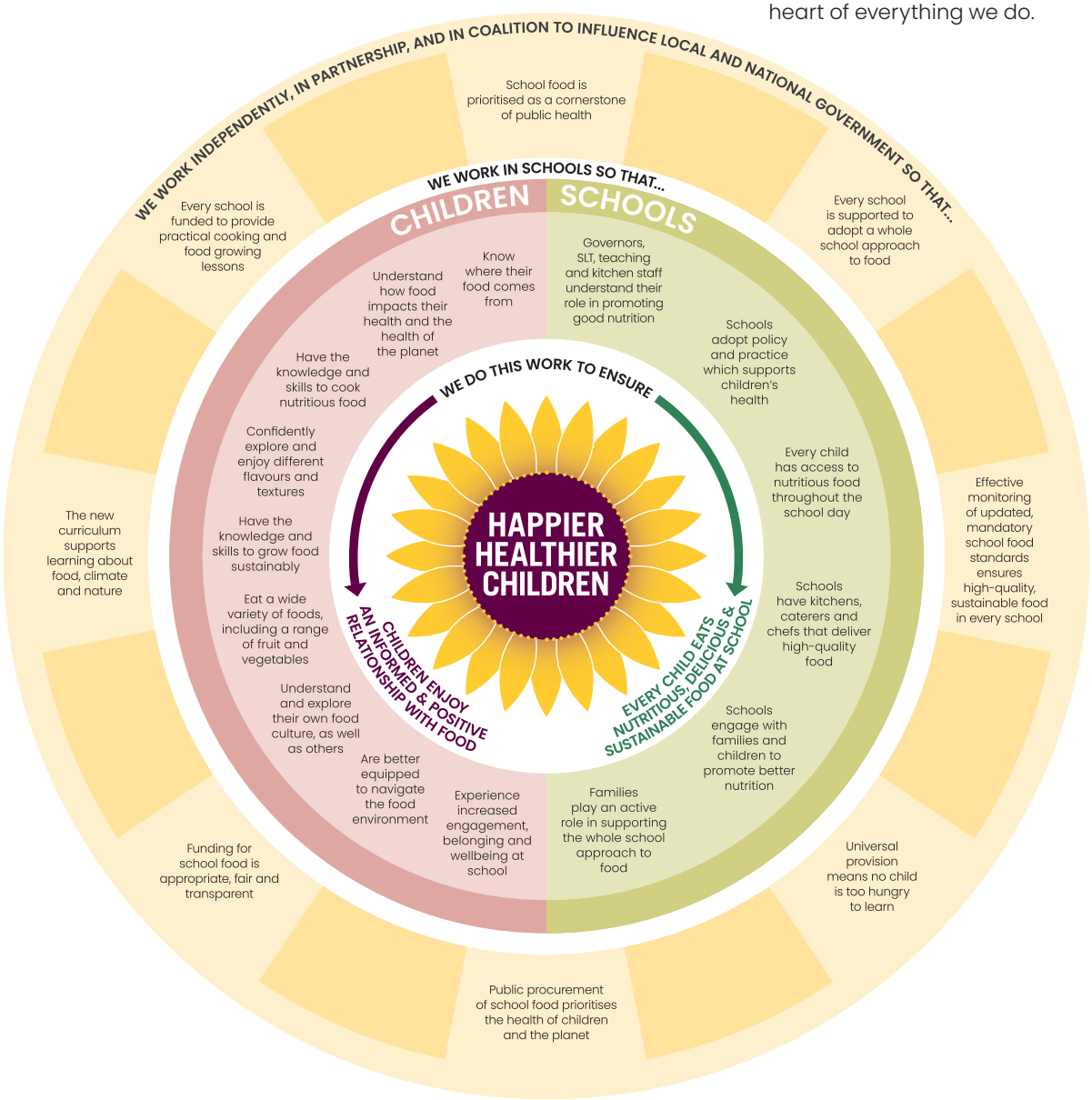
This year we have developed our strategy for 2025–2030 which will see us continue our mission to ensure that every child can enjoy nutritious and delicious food at school and food education that sets them up for a life of health and happiness.

We recognise the impact of food on our precious planet and believe that the circa £1bn spent each year on school food should be spent on sustainable food. In fact, the charity started its life with the ambitious strapline of "farm gate to school plate" with a logo to match.

As we look forward to the next five years, we will continue to push for school food that supports the health of our children and our planet but will look to our partners for their leadership and expertise in the area of sustainable procurement.

Our work is underpinned by our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. We have scrutinised our processes and now have a team that more accurately represents the communities we serve. We have so much more we can do together. We want to bring the voices of our beneficiaries to both programme and policy development. And we will create pathways for young people to join us by enabling them to graduate from volunteering to paid internships and onto employment at School Food Matters.

Our strategy for 2025–2030 is guided by our Theory of Change which puts happier, healthier children at the heart of everything we do.




At Forster Park children eat food from all around the world.
Paella is a dish made from rice, vegetables, fish or chicken.
Asian
In England we have lots of markets selling fresh healthy vegetables.
SCHOOL

Strategy for 2025–2030

This year staff and Trustees came together to write our strategy for 2025–2030 and set five priorities for the next five years.

Priority 1

Drive national policy change to transform the school food system

- We will continue to work in coalition with campaign partners to impact national policy
- We will collaborate on research that supports our advocacy efforts
- We will expand our policy, campaigns and communications capacity
- We will establish teacher, parent and pupil panels to guide and inform our work

Progress this year

We continue to work in coalition under the banner of the School Food Review, and together we have pushed ahead with reform on access, quality and funding of school meals. In June we won policy commitments in two of our focus areas; access, with an extension of free school meals to all families in receipt of Universal Credit, and quality with a government commitment to update the school food standards.

We secured funding for a research project with University of Birmingham to investigate how our Nourish programme could be adapted for secondary school settings and have continued our work with University of Hertfordshire to adapt delivery of Nourish for special schools.

We have restructured our policy, campaigns and communications team to work more effectively.

We have received training from Bite Back to help us develop our approach to student voice and we have used our network of teachers across the country to advocate for better breakfasts and an extension to free school meals.

Priority 2

Prepare our organisation for work at scale

- We will use our network to recruit project delivery teams outside London, making the most of local talent and expertise
- We will focus our fundraising efforts on unrestricted core funding from trusts and foundations and attract public donations at a high–profile event to mark our 20th birthday in 2027
- We will research, test and establish cloud–based finance and HR systems, resilient to cyber–attacks
- We will embed a series of whole team lunch and learns, regular cross–team meetings and training to support new IT systems to help us work more effectively across the charity

Progress this year

This year we have grown our network and have begun working in partnership with Birmingham City Council, Hertfordshire County Council and Cumberland County Council, and will recruit local project officers in each of these new regions.

We received two sizeable unrestricted core funding grants and secured multi–year funding for the School Food Review and for testing our model for scale across the country.

This year we successfully introduced the cloud–based HR system, HR Locker and moved from Sage to Xero for more efficient processes for finance.

Fluency in our content management system, Airtable, has radically improved, and teams are successfully using Canva and Mural with IT skills and expertise shared across teams through our Lunch and Learn programme.

Priority 3

Develop local partnerships to scale our impact

- We will develop and test our school food and food education package in six local authorities or MATs, across the country, to further refine our offer
- We will prioritise work that supports deeper partnerships with like–minded national charities, local organisations and food partnerships
- We will use our campaigns and communications expertise to take lessons learned from regional programmes to show local, national and global audiences that school food transformation is possible when you take a whole–systems approach
- We will make the case for government funding to establish School Food Improvement Officers in every local authority

Progress this year

This year we concluded our work with Spring Impact, a global non–profit consultancy which helps charities to scale impact. We now have a model for scale across the country. Thanks to funding from Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation, we will be able to test our approach in six areas outside London, with Birmingham and Cumberland secured.

Supported by The National Lottery Community Fund, our Young Marketeers programme was delivered in 14 cities this year, forging new partnerships with 18 local food charities.

Our policy, campaigns and communications team attracted more MPs to our programmes than ever before. A total of 12 MPs visited our programmes, giving us an opportunity to demonstrate the value of food education and the power of a whole school approach to food.

In October we published our Cost of a School Meal report which made the case for School Food Improvement Officers to monitor school food and drive improvement. Our forthcoming work in Cumberland will allow us to explore the impact of this role, a role that has paid dividends in several London boroughs.

Priority 4

Kickstart a food education revolution

- We will train and develop local project officers to deliver our food education programmes within their communities
- We will share our learning to raise up the work of smaller, hyper–local, and culturally specific organisations working to similar goals
- We will collaborate with academics to improve the evidence base supporting food education, to inform both government policy and our own practice in schools
- We will develop and share resources to enable school communities across the country to establish their own cooking, growing and food enterprise programmes

Progress this year

This year Young Marketeers recruited 16 freelance project officers and gardeners to deliver our food education programmes in 14 cities. Local project officers and gardeners have enjoyed training both online and in person.

We have been able to highlight the work of smaller local charities through our reports to food education funders and through our new Food Education Network, with a Network Director now in place, hosted by School Food Matters.

The Food Education Network has established a steering group with special advisors from City, University of London's Food Policy Unit and from primary and secondary education settings. We have drawn on their expertise to pull together a research hub so that we can identify gaps in evidence.

This year our food education webinars have attracted over 100 participants and we have pulled all our resources together onto a new webpage for schools and local project delivery teams across the country.

Priority 5

Help schools to get better food on every plate

- Make procurement and contract management a priority focus of our work by adding a catering consultant to our team
- With expertise in–house, become a national hub for training, support and resources to enable local authorities, MATs and school leaders to push for better quality school food
- Use our teacher, parent and pupil panels to inform our offer
- Deepen our understanding and expertise in securing good food in secondary and special schools by working with sector partners

Progress this year

This year, we brought in procurement expertise from two catering consultants, Panache and Riva and our staff benefitted from two days of training.

In the summer, we developed a partnership with the Mayor of London and Bloomberg's Partnership for Healthy Cities. The Great Plates Partnership will deliver a series of webinars, training sessions and resources to support schools in London to procure and manage contracts for great school food. Resources from the Great Plates Partnership will be shared with schools and local authorities across the country.

This year we developed a proposal for research into parents' experience of free school meals; how the stigma and shame associated with being eligible during their time at school has shaped their attitudes to school food for their own children.

Our on–going research into school food in secondary schools with University of Birmingham and in special schools with University of Hertfordshire has secured new relationships with school food service providers and experts in the sector. This has proved to be a rich source of learning as we develop our offers to children in different settings.

Review of activities

School Food Matters has built strong relationships with project partners, and together we develop flagship programmes which continue to grow year on year. Partnerships are key to the success of our charity and enable us to deliver high quality food education programmes to our beneficiaries. We value the role our partners play and will continue to nurture these important relationships. We appreciate our partners' long–term commitment to the projects highlighted right and overleaf.

Whole Foods Market and Whole Foods Market Foundation

This was our 13th year of working with Whole Foods Market. Our **Schools to Market** programme incorporated a new, school–based arm of the programme, enabling us to extend the opportunities to six schools in two new boroughs, Hillingdon and Wandsworth. Over 2,000 children and young people from another 20 London schools took part in our popular **Honeybee** programme, planting bee–friendly gardens, attending visits from beekeepers and travelling to apiaries across London. We awarded another 51 **Garden Grants** to schools in seven London boroughs. To help ensure the longevity of these gardens, we offered gardening training to teachers at grant–winning schools and our SFM gardener delivered sessions on how new gardens can be embedded into the curriculum.

> ***"Being part of an eco club is exciting but being part of a garden project is wonderful! I have learned how to plant and look after things. I am waiting to start planting my own vegetables and take some home."***
> *Child, School Garden Grants, London*

Borough Market and The National Lottery Community Fund

In 2025 we continued our successful partnership with Borough Market who supported our **Young Marketeers Winter** programme for secondary schools. Now in its 13th year, our **Young Marketeers Summer and Harvest** programmes have expanded to cities across the country, thanks to The National Lottery Community Fund, The Dulverton Trust and the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, with additional funding from corporate partners, Onward Housing and the Torus Foundation.

> ***"It's like a little miracle! You get one seed and you can grow something as big as a tree!"***
> *Child, Young Markeeters, Liverpool*

Belazu Ingredient Company

This year's **Fresh Enterprise** programme saw a high calibre of entries from our eight schools. We welcomed Thom Elliot, the founder of Pizza Pilgrims to the tasting panel. The winning paste, Flavour Fest from Ellen Wilkinson school, is now available to buy on the Belazu website. The project continues to inspire young people to consider future careers in the food industry, with two participants enjoying work experience placements at Belazu HQ. Belazu continues to support our **Holiday Food and Fun** programme during the Easter and summer holidays, with children invited to engage in fun activities, including gardening and cooking. Over the course of both programmes, more than 600 hot, nutritious meals were provided for vulnerable children.

> ***"Wait, can we really mix these together? I didn't think they'd taste good, but they actually do!"***
> *Student, Fresh Enterprise*

Impact on Urban Health (IOUH)

We changed the name of our flagship school food improvement programme from Healthy Zones to **Nourish**. We wanted to move away from labelling foods as healthy vs unhealthy or good vs bad. Together we reviewed the nutritional messaging of our work and the impact it has on children and young people so that it aligns with our quest to support a positive relationship with food. We delivered Nourish in more boroughs this year. As well as Southwark and Lambeth, we delivered in Ealing and Westminster too. We also started delivery of School Food Action, a variation of Nourish in collaboration with Southwark Council. We have also taken our first steps in scaling Nourish outside London as we prepare for delivery in Birmingham, Cumberland and Hertfordshire.

> ***"It's been really great; it's been a big transformation. We couldn't have done it without School Food Matters help."***
> *Senior Leadership Team member, Nourish*

Impact on Urban Health continues its focus on policy change to tackle health inequalities. With Bite Back, Chefs in Schools and The Food Foundation, School Food Matters continues to co–ordinate the **School Food Review (SFR)**. This year we added Sustain's Children's Food Campaign to the coalition's governance group and worked with IOUH to secure funding for a further two years, taking us to August 2027. Our shared mission is to realise the full potential of the school food system through government reform so that no child misses out on good nutrition at school. With our new government in place at the start of this financial year, we focussed our attentions on briefing new ministers, supporting the delivery of universal primary school breakfast clubs and pushing for an extension to free school meals as part of the new administration's commitment to tackle child poverty. This approach proved successful in June, with two major policy announcements on school food.

> ***"Congratulations to the 40 organisations that make up the School Food Review that have collectively campaigned for expanding free school meals for many years. The benefits of free school meals are unmatched leading to higher attendance, attainment, and better health outcomes. We applaud the government for recognising the power of this policy. It is truly transformational for the children who need it most."***
> *Dr Nick Capstick OBE, Chair of the School Food Review*



Financial support

School Food Matters is grateful for the support received from our funders and project partners over the course of this financial year:

- Barking and Dagenham Council
- Belazu Ingredient Company
- Borough Market
- Dulverton Trust
- Fashion 4 Food
- Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Greater London Authority Kitchen Social
- Grow to School
- Hillingdon Council
- Hollick Family Foundation
- Impact on Urban Health
- Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Nutritional Wellbeing Foundation
- Ocado Retail
- Onward Housing
- The Orp Foundation
- The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
- Southwark Council
- Torus Foundation
- United St Saviour's Charity
- University of Hertfordshire
- Westminster City Council
- Westminster Foundation
- Whole Foods Market Foundation

Financial review

For the year ended 31 August 2025, total incoming resources amounted to £1,547,744 compared to £1,217,527 last year. Expenditure for the year to 31 August 2025 was £1,521,940 compared to £1,188,195 last year.

Any funds described as "restricted funds" are available only for the specific projects or purposes determined by the funders. In addition, the charity holds "designated funds" which have been allocated for a particular purpose by the Trustees. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out in the accounts that follow.

Reserves

As part of the 2024/2025 year end process, School Food Matters' finance sub–committee reviewed the charity's Reserves Policy. It was confirmed that the policy was still considered appropriate and that School Food Matters would maintain free reserves:

- To provide a sustainable and appropriate level of working capital
- To allow for periods of unexpected drops in planned income
- To cope with sudden short–term increases in planned expenditure
- To provide cover for other risks, contingencies or unforeseen events which would have a low likelihood of occurring but would have significant impact on School Food Matters

To this end, School Food Matters aims to accumulate unrestricted reserves equal to at least three to six months' unrestricted expenditure. Our unrestricted reserves at year end stand at £174,110. Of this, £8,518 are fixed assets, so our liquid unrestricted reserves stand at £165,592. Therefore, it is deemed that we hold funds to ensure the charity was able to meet all current, known and some estimated possible future liabilities.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

School Food Matters is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28 July 2008 and registered as a charity on 4 February 2010.

The company is governed under its Articles of Association. The Trustees have a responsibility to ensure that all aspects of the charity's activities are properly conducted and carried out in full compliance with its Articles of Association. The Trustees meet at least four times a year and attend an additional strategy day together with School Food Matters staff. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. No expenses were claimed by any Trustee during the year.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Trustees are appointed under the terms of the Articles of Association. Each new Trustee is given a copy of the Articles of Association, details of their responsibilities as a charity trustee, background on the charity's strategy and current projects and other information useful in pursuing their role. They will also have access to all SFM policies including our insurance policies. Trustees are invited to visit our projects so that they can familiarise themselves with our work. The Trustees are recruited in consultation with the Chief Executive to ensure that the requisite skills are available to support the charity's activities.

Staff, training and fair pay

School Food Matters has 22 core members of staff (17.9 FTE) and is governed by a board of nine Trustees. We continue to be able to recruit high–quality volunteers to undertake a range of useful tasks in all areas of our work. School Food Matters is very grateful for the many benefits they bring. This year, School Food Matters has had over 97 days' work delivered by a group of 41 talented volunteers, many of whom are going on to enjoy professional development opportunities delivered by the charity's staff. We also employ 25 freelancers who work on our projects across England.

In January 2018, School Food Matters became an accredited Living Wage Employer, committed to paying the London Living Wage, as calculated by the Living Wage Foundation, which reflects the cost of living.

Fundraising

A proportion of the charity's income is from grants from the trusts and foundations listed in this Annual Report. All funding bids are developed by School Food Matters staff. In this financial year we have allocated £27,312 to raising funds from trusts and foundations which covers staff time and overheads.

Role of Trustees

The Trustees provide governance and develop the policies of the charity, and accept ultimate legal authority for it. The Trustees formulate and regularly review the long and short term strategic aims of the charity as well as setting specific goals and priorities. The Trustees approve budgets and are responsible for the good stewardship of the charity's resources. They work in partnership with the Chief Executive with a view to furthering the charity's objectives. The Trustees, who are also directors of the Company, each have a limited liability of £1 in the event of the charity being wound up. Biographies of Trustees can be found on the School Food Matters website.

Role of Chief Executive

The Chief Executive provides leadership to employees and is responsible for the operational detail and implementation of the charity's strategy. The Chief Executive is also responsible for the management of the charity, including control of expenditure in line with budgets and delegations approved by the Board. The Chief Executive reports regularly to the Trustees on progress against agreed priorities and objectives and seeks opportunities to expand and promote the organisation.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed the major strategic, business and operational risks to which School Food Matters is exposed. These include governance and compliance issues, loss of key members of staff, changing government policy, project or campaign failure and loss of income. The Trustees confirm that systems have been established to mitigate any such risks, that appropriate insurance cover has been obtained and that the assessment of risks is kept under review. The charity's risk register is a working document which is reviewed annually by the senior leadership team and Trustees, as the responsible parties. It considers the possible risks to the charity and prudent ways to avoid such risks arising, as well as mitigation should problems occur.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees consider the principal risks to School Food Matters to be:

Risk	Mitigation
Loss of senior leadership team	School Food Matters has a senior leadership team of four. Losing one or more of the team members risks interruption to financial reporting, fundraising, advocacy and campaigning activities. Should the charity lose its Chief Executive, there would be significant recruitment costs, and Trustees would be engaged in the recruitment process. To mitigate these risks, the senior leadership team meets monthly to share information. All management documents are accessible to the leadership team, our succession plan is regularly reviewed and updated by Trustees, and the wider staff team has received media training to develop a pool of well–informed advocates to comment on our campaigns.
Damage to reputation	We are proud of our reputation and review our activities and relationships carefully to reflect this. Mitigating activities include compliance with Charity Commission and Companies House regulations, embedding policies and practices that reflect our commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, carrying out risk assessments and ensuring HR policies, such as safeguarding, whistleblowing and data protection and confidentiality, are in place. With our Press and Communications team in place, we are better able to respond to challenges to our reputation in a timely and efficient manner.
Failure to meet funding targets	Fundraising is always challenging and the charity must forecast effectively and be prepared for shortfalls. Mitigating activities include monitoring reserves on a monthly basis to ensure our minimum target is reached, reporting monthly cashflow to the finance sub–committee, building a project contingency fund to address shortfalls and cancelling any proposed work that remains unfunded. We must be prepared to reduce staffing levels if a significant shortfall is forecast. We will continue to diversify our income streams so that we are not over–reliant on trusts and foundations.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of School Food Matters for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

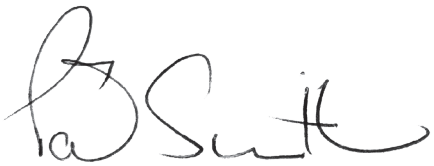
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed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

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information

This Report of the Trustees, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 22 January 2026 and signed on the Board's behalf by



Mr Paul Smith
Trustee



Independent auditors' report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of School Food Matters (the "charitable company") for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed right.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non–compliance with laws and regulations

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions

In response to the risk of irregularities and non–compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non–compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non–compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Christopher Julian Brigstocke FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Collards
Chartered Accountants

5–9 Eden Street
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey
KT1 1BQ

22 January 2026

Reference and administrative details

Company Registration Number	06657048 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration Number	1134094
Patrons	Baroness Rosie Boycott Princess Dora Loewenstein
Directors/Trustees	Max Beazley Katrina Bowles Jared Brading Alayna Francis Ossie Gray Mecca Ibrahim Rebecca O'Connell (resigned 23 October 2025) Ben Reynolds Paul Smith
Chief Executive	Stephanie Slater
Registered Office	Blackfriars Settlement 9 Rushworth Street London SE1 0RB
Independent Auditors	Collards Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors 5–9 Eden Street Kingston upon Thames Surrey KT1 1BQ
Bankers	Santander 2 Triton Square Regent's Place London NW1 3AN
	Triodos Deanery Road Bristol BS1 5AS
	Nationwide Building Society Kings Park Road Moulton Park Northampton NN3 6NW
	Unity Bank PO Box 7193 Planetary Road Willenhall WV1 9DG

Statement of financial activities

(incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 August 2025

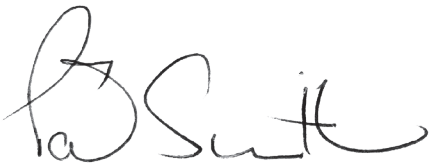
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	3	**31,418**	**–**	**–**	**31,418**	28,658
Other income		**–**	**5,214**	**–**	**5,214**	2,570
Trusts and Foundations		**7,500**	**25,000**	**–**	**32,500**	291,227
Charitable activities	5					
Project management and services		**–**	**–**	**1,396,621**	**1,396,621**	828,306
Membership		**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	600
Grant–making		**–**	**14,000**	**63,454**	**77,454**	62,517
Investment income	4	**4,537**	**–**	**–**	**4,537**	3,649
Total		**43,455**	**44,214**	**1,460,075**	**1,547,744**	1,217,527
EXPENDITURE ON						
Staff costs	11	**–**	**23,482**	**749,725**	**773,207**	622,283
Cost of raising funds	6	**4,857**	**19,526**	**2,930**	**27,312**	20,800
Project management and services	7	**–**	**14,000**	**591,819**	**605,819**	454,777
Overheads and governance	8	**–**	**–**	**115,601**	**115,601**	90,335
		4,857	**57,008**	**1,460,075**	**1,521,940**	1,188,195
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE		**38,598**	**(12,794)**	**–**	**25,804**	29,332
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		**135,512**	**12,794**	**–**	**148,306**	118,974
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**174,110**	**–**	**–**	**174,110**	148,306

Balance sheet

At 31 August 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
		£	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	12	**8,518**	–	–	**8,518**	7,843
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	13	**4,311**	**244**	**72,960**	**77,515**	158,517
Cash at bank		**168,892**	**96,218**	**488,596**	**753,706**	409,046
		173,203	**96,462**	**561,556**	**831,221**	567,563
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	14	**(7,611)**	**(96,462)**	**(561,556)**	**(665,629)**	(427,100)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**165,592**	–	–	**165,592**	140,463
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**174,110**	–	–	**174,110**	148,306
NET ASSETS		**174,110**	–	–	**174,110**	148,306
FUNDS	16					
Unrestricted funds					**174,110**	135,512
Designated funds						12,794
Restricted funds						
TOTAL FUNDS					**174,110**	148,306

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr Paul Smith
Trustee

Cash flow statement

For the year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	18	**343,472**	198,953
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		**343,472**	198,953
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(3,348)**	(3,676)
Interest received		**4,536**	3,649
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		**1,188**	(27)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		**344,660**	198,926
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	19	**409,046**	210,120
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		**753,706**	409,046

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2025

1. Statutory information

School Food Matters is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found in the report of the Trustees. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

2. 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)", the 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.

School Food Matters meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Income
Income, including grants, is recognised when:

- the charity has entitlement to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met
- it is probable that the income will be received
- the amount can be measured reliably

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met. Membership income is accounted for in the year that it is received. Income is stated after trade discounts, other sales taxes and net of VAT.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure:

- as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure
- when 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 are depreciated by 20% on cost and 25% on reducing balance. Fixed assets are depreciated by 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.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds allocated by the charity for particular 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
School Food Matters operates a defined contribution pension scheme administered by NEST. 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 August 2025

3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Donations	31,418	–	31,418	28,658

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Deposit account interest	4,537	–	4,537	3,649

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted & designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Project management & services				
Belazu Ingredient Company	–	26,000	26,000	26,000
Borough Market	–	18,553	18,553	9,975
Dulverton Trust	–	42,050	42,050	–
Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust	–	25,288	25,288	24,315
GLA Kitchen Social	–	2,000	2,000	2,000
Grow to School	–	2,625	2,625	–
Honourable Company of Gloucestershire	–	–	–	1,000
Impact on Urban Health	–	694,529	694,529	498,306
Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation	–	110,000	110,000	–
Nutritional Wellbeing Foundation	–	33,333	33,333	16,667
Ocado	–	40,139	40,139	48,183
Onward Housing	–	4,000	4,000	–
Pukka Herbs	–	–	–	9,428
Rikolto	–	6,211	6,211	–
Schools	–	990	990	–
Tesco Community Fund	–	–	–	5,000
The National Lottery Community Fund	–	99,427	99,427	–
The Westminster Foundation	–	29,824	29,824	–
Torus Foundation	–	13,200	13,200	8,800
United St Saviour's Charity	–	10,636	10,636	6,400
Universities	–	7,500	7,500	–
Various Local Authority commissions	–	103,863	103,863	61,722
Whole Foods Market Foundation	–	126,453	126,453	110,510
	–	1,396,621	1,396,621	828,306
Membership Income	–	–	–	600
Grant-making funds	14,000	63,454	77,454	62,517
	14,000	1,460,075	1,474,075	891,423

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2025

6. Raising funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	**18,614**	10,300
Rent, rates and water	**4,912**	5,459
Insurance	**406**	323
Telephone	**287**	309
Stationery & office costs	**2,591**	3,767
Travel	**235**	399
Depreciation	**267**	243
	27,312	20,800

7. Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs	Support costs (see note 8)	Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	773,208	–	773,208
Cost of raising funds	18,614	8,698	27,312
Project management and services	498,916	106,903	605,819
	1,290,738	**115,601**	**1,406,339**

8. Support costs

	Overheads	Governance costs	Total
	£	£	£
Cost of raising funds	8,698	–	8,698
Overheads and governance	100,903	6,000	106,903
	109,601	6,000	115,601

9. Net income/(expenditure)

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation–owned assets	**2,673**	2,686
Auditors remuneration	**6,000**	6,000
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	**–**	–
Operating lease costs – rent	**45,059**	44,175

10. Key management personnel

There were no salaries or other benefits paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2025 nor for the year ended 31 August 2024. There were no expenses paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2025 nor for the year ended 31 August 2024.

The total employee benefits of key management personnel, including pension contributions, for the year to 31 August 2025 were £180,083 (£197,833 for the year to 31 August 2024).

Pay for key management personnel at School Food Matters has been benchmarked and reflects the market rate for comparable jobs in comparable organisations. Pay also reflects level of knowledge, skills and experience required, and the responsibilities and accountabilities associated with each role. Staff pay is reviewed annually and agreed with the Trustees.

11. Staff costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages	**696,327**	562,336
Social security	**67,039**	49,984
Pensions	**28,456**	20,263
	791,822	632,583

In addition to employing staff, the charity also benefits from the use of unpaid volunteers. During the year this amounted to the equivalent of 97 days work which if paid at the London Living Wage would have cost the charity £10,803 in wages. (£11,467 for 109 days work for the year to 31 August 2024).

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

	2025	2024
Admin & support staff	**22**	18
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	**17.9**	15.3

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

	2025	2024
£60,001 – £70,000	**1**	1

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 September 2024	**19,941**
Additions	**3,348**
At 31 August 2025	**23,289**
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2024	**12,098**
Charge for year	**2,673**
At 31 August 2025	**14,771**
Net book value	
At 31 August 2025	**8,518**
At 31 August 2024	**7,843**

13. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	**14,700**	22,030
Accrued income	**54,065**	129,743
Other debtors	**915**	782
Prepayments	**7,836**	5,962
	77,516	158,517

Trade debtors relate to amounts due in respect of unrestricted fund programmes.
Accrued income relates to income that has been spend but not yet received from the funder

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	**–**	67,338
Trade creditors	**24,218**	14,691
Accruals and deferred income	**641,411**	345,071
	665,629	427,100

Accruals and deferred income includes £39,866 (£47,041 in 2024) for expenses relating to the period, but which the charity was charged after the period end.

Deferred income relates to income received during the year for food education projects which will take place after the balance sheet date.

The movement on deferred income is as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Brought forward	**298,030**	176,383
Recognised this year	**(298,030)**	(155,583)
Income received this year being deferred	**601,545**	277,230
Carried forward	**601,545**	298,030

Within the above £0 (2024: £0) is expected to be deferred by over 12 months.

15. Leasing agreements

Minimum lease payments under non–cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Within one year	**11,044**	11,044

16. Movement in funds

	At 01.09.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.08.25
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	135,512	38,599	**174,111**
Designated – Various food education projects	12,794	(12,794)	**–**
Total funds	148,306	25,805	**174,111**

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	**43,455**	**(4,856)**	**38,599**
Designated – Various food education projects	**–**	**(12,794)**	**(12,794)**
Designated – Events	**5,215**	**(5,215)**	**–**
Designated – Fashion 4 Food	**14,000**	**(14,000)**	**–**
Designated – Garfield Weston Foundation	**20,000**	**(20,000)**	**–**
Designated – The Orp Foundation	**5,000**	**(5,000)**	**–**
	87,670	**(61,865)**	**25,805**
Restricted funds			
Various food education projects	**1,394,621**	**(1,394,621)**	**–**
Whole Foods Market Foundation School Garden Grants	**63,454**	**(63,454)**	**–**
GLA Kitchen Social	**2,000**	**(2,000)**	**–**
	1,460,075	**(1,460,075)**	**–**
Total funds	**1,547,745**	**(1,521,940)**	**25,805**

16. Movement in funds – continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 01.09.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.08.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	115,180	21,842	137,022
Designated – Various food education projects	–	11,284	11,284
Designated – Foresters School Gardens	3,794	(3,794)	–
	118,974	29,332	148,306
Total funds	118,974	29,332	148,306

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	**125,810**	**(103,968)**	**21,842**
Designated – Various food education projects	**780,209**	**(768,925)**	**11,284**
Designated – Foresters School Gardens	**–**	**(3,794)**	**(3,794)**
Designated – Whole Foods Market Foundation School Garden Grants	**62,516**	**(62,516)**	**–**
Restricted funds			
Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust	**24,315**	**(24,315)**	**–**
GLA Kitchen Social	**2,000**	**(2,000)**	**–**
Impact on Urban Health	**199,610**	**(199,610)**	**–**
Nutritional Wellbeing Foundation	**16,667**	**(16,667)**	**–**
United St Saviour's Charity	**6,400**	**(6,400)**	**–**
	248,992	**(248,992)**	**–**
Total funds	**1,217,527**	**(1,188,195)**	**29,332**

The various food education projects fund (a restricted income fund) is a collection of several funds which relate to providing food education to schools and other bodies. These funds are provided by various organisations, trusts and other charitable organisations.

The Whole Foods Market Foundation School Garden Grants Fund (a restricted Income Fund) is a fund from the Whole Foods Market Foundation which is available to schools to allow them to develop school gardens where pupils can learn about growing fruit and vegetables.

The GLA Kitchen Social restricted income fund is to provide funding for running school holiday food and fun programmes..

17. Related party disclosures

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

18. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	**25,804**	29,332
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**2,673**	2,686
Interest received	**(4,536)**	(3,649)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**81,001**	(46,674)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**238,530**	217,258
Net cash provided by operations	**343,472**	198,953

19. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 01.09.24	Cash flow	At 31.08.25
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	**409,046**	**344,660**	**753,706**
	409,046	**344,660**	**753,706**
Total	**409,046**	**344,660**	**753,706**



School Food Matters
Blackfriars Settlement
9 Rushworth Street
London SE1 0RB

SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

www.schoolfoodmatters.org

SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1134094

Accounts



SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended
31 August 2024

Registered Company Number: 06657048 • Registered Charity Number: 1134094



Contents

A word from our Chair of Trustees	3
Our impact in 2024	4
Report of the Trustees	6
Independent auditor's report	19
Reference and administrative details	22
Statement of financial activities	23
Balance sheet	24
Cash flow statement	25
Notes to the financial statements	26

A word from our Chair of Trustees

Having been a trustee of School Food Matters (SFM) for over five years, I am honoured to have taken up the role of Chair. What an exciting year it has been!

The election announcement in May came earlier than expected, but SFM was ready with its manifesto, and able to quickly mobilise its extensive network to highlight the manifesto asks. Since then, SFM has continued to both lead and work in coalition to influence school food policy, including through the School Food Review.

This year, SFM's report on The Cost of a School Meal dug deep into the complexity of school food funding and revealed a significant shortfall. This vital research informed campaigning and advocacy work in support of a fair, healthy and sustainable school food system. And through the newly established Food Education Network, SFM brought together 40 food educators in readiness for a coordinated response to the government's curriculum review, taking forward the charity's aim to "kickstart a food education revolution".

School Food Matters knows schools and recognises that whilst policy reform is vital to fix our broken school food system, grassroots action is needed to transform school food culture. SFM's programmes continue to drive this change and have gone from strength to strength this year. Young Marketeers has held markets in Bedford, Birmingham, Stroud, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester and London, raising thousands of pounds for local food banks and attracting coverage in local and national media. These programmes have helped put SFM firmly on the national map, a priority this year that was aided by the charity's brilliant Two Cities film highlighting school food inequities between London and Liverpool.

This year has also seen SFM's work being spread and scaled through working with more local authorities in new and exciting ways. In Hillingdon, SFM has been commissioned by the council to audit food in primary schools. In Wandsworth and Islington, SFM has trained up local authority officers to deliver Healthy Zones. In Westminster, the charity has been teaching parents and children to cook nutritious meals together. And in Southwark, SFM is supporting schools to embed a whole school approach to food. This piece of work takes SFM into nurseries as well as primary and secondary schools, and the team has been working with early years providers to help tailor the approach in these settings.

Finally, in preparation for our Strategy Day in October 2024, SFM's Impact and Strategy Manager led a series of interactive workshops to refine our Theory of Change and embed learning from the charity's focus on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. The workshops involved staff, trustees and volunteers from across the country, and will enable us to set our strategic priorities for the next five years. Undoubtedly, SFM's future direction will also be informed by SFM's Chief Executive's participation in the renowned Forward Institute Fellowship Programme, which brings together leaders from private, public and charity sectors to share ideas and consider the challenge of responsible leadership.

As we look forward to our 2025-2030 strategy, we do so with greater resources and energy to bring SFM's work to more children and schools across the country. We go forth with determination to challenge the inequities and injustices of the current school food system and with renewed hope that the new Labour government, with its mission to "break down the barriers to opportunities" for children, will commit to investing in school food to fully realise the potential of the next generation.

Rebecca O'Connell
Chair of Trustees



Since 2012, more than 300,000 children across England have benefitted from our projects in schools*

Our impact in 2024

WE CONNECT CHILDREN TO THEIR FOOD IN NEW WAYS

783
visited a farm with us this year

55%
learned more about where their food comes from through our programmes

54%
tasted a food or flavour they'd never tried before

WE GET CHILDREN GARDENING

3,517
attended our gardening workshops this year, with our Welcome sessions supporting the integration of **141** refugee children into a new school

67%
who attended our sessions are now interested in gardening or growing their own fruit and veg

WE BUILD LIFE SKILLS TOO

922
sold food they'd grown or cooked at their local market, managing money, interacting with the public, and practising sales techniques

79%
told us that they'd improved their teamworking skills through our food enterprise programmes



WE INSPIRE CHILDREN TO COOK

1,041
attended our cooking sessions this year

51%
became more interested in cooking

Their teachers benefitted too – **100%** of teachers that attended one of our teacher training sessions felt more confident to teach cooking at school

62%
involved in our projects tell us that they're happier at school as a result

*The figure reflects cumulative programme data since 2012. School Food Matters collects both qualitative and quantitative data from each and every programme in order to ensure that we are on track, making an impact and delivering our mission.

AND WE SPREAD JOY!





Report of the Trustees

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 August 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).

Objectives and activities

Our mission

School Food Matters exists to teach children about food and to improve children's access to healthy, sustainable food during their time at school.

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the charity are to advance the education, and promote the health, of school children and their families in particular but not exclusively by:

- developing and improving knowledge and understanding of food, food production, health and sustainable food production amongst local authorities, schools, pupils and their families, school caterers and others
- encouraging and monitoring good practice in the provision of and access to fresh and nutritionally healthy food in schools

Activities

School Food Matters provides fully funded food education programmes to schools. Our experience delivering these programmes informs and strengthens our campaigns, bringing the voices of children, parents and teachers to government policy. The charity is engaged in the following activities:

- We campaign on issues relating to school food, children's health and food education
- We raise funds from trusts and foundations to support our campaigning
- We devise, develop and deliver food education projects with partners

Public benefit

The Trustees are aware of Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011. They believe School Food Matters fulfils a fundamental public benefit by promoting the health, and advancing the education, of school children and their families.

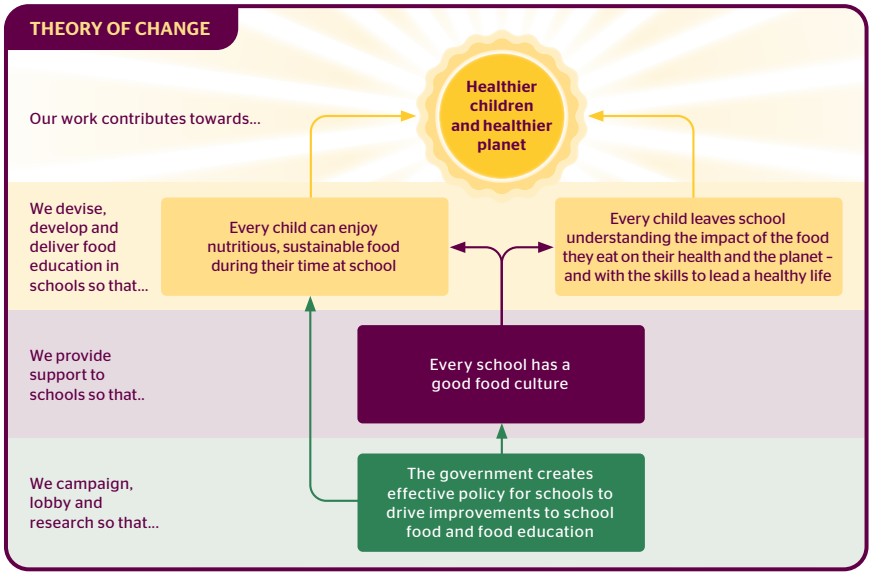


About School Food Matters

School Food Matters was born out of a grassroots campaign led by one parent to transform the food on offer at her children's primary school. The campaign successfully transformed school food in 38 primary schools in London from frozen ready meals to freshly prepared food made from good quality ingredients. Take up of school meals doubled and the price to parents was reduced by 38p, proving that delivering fresh, sustainable school food was possible.

From its grassroots beginnings, School Food Matters has grown into an influential charity which exists to teach children about food and to improve access to healthy, sustainable food during their time at school. In 2007 our campaign was about the quality of school meals. In 2024 our focus has been on ***system change***; to create a school food system that works for every child. To do this we must address three areas in urgent need of reform: access, quality and funding of school food.

Our work is guided by a Theory of Change and three areas of work: food education, food provision and food policy.



Food education
Food education in England requires our attention as, despite food and nutrition being a mandatory part of the national curriculum, delivery is patchy, and the policy does not come with government funding for teacher training or resources for schools.

Food provision
Our focus on food provision is about supporting schools to create a food environment that puts children's health first and ensures that the school food system works for every child.

Food policy
At School Food Matters we believe that every child in every school should have access to food education and the good nutrition they need to thrive. For that to happen we must change policy.


MATTERS

Strategy for 2020-2025

This year staff and Trustees came together to review our strategy for 2020-2025 to ensure we're on track and delivering our mission. Our framework of five priorities for success is still relevant and we are making excellent progress towards our goals.

1. Grow our profile to improve our charity's ability to influence government policy

- We will build a library of quantitative and qualitative data to measure the effect of our work in schools
- We will increase advocacy by making current and new supporters aware of our campaigns
- We will raise awareness by using social media, press coverage and personal communication, and use the evidence we collect to substantiate our stories

Progress this year

We produced research, adding to the growing evidence supporting investment in free school meals. Our Two Cities campaign highlighted the "unfair" disparity that exists in access to school meals across the country

We provided evidence to the House of Lords Food, Diet and Obesity Committee on the issues of children's health and school food, earning a citation in its report, *A Plan to Fix Our Broken Food System*. We gave public speeches on these topics at major events, including the World Public Health Nutrition and Food Active conferences

We've had great success on social media, with our Instagram and LinkedIn followings nearly doubling this year. Engagement has been strong, with our Two Cities film receiving over 200,000 views across all channels

2. Increase our impact by delivering more projects at more schools in and outside London

- We will focus on new regions, offering our programmes to 25 schools outside London to establish a network in five new regions
- We will secure the support of new partners to deliver new projects in the regions
- We will use the tried-and-tested programmes established in London schools to extend delivery beyond the capital

Progress this year

Young Marketeers expanded again in 2024 to run in 82 schools across the country, including the new cities of Manchester, Bedford and Leicester

Young Marketeers was supported by a wide range of funders including Ocado, Borough Market, The Dulverton Trust, The London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, Stroud Town Council and the Torus Foundation in Liverpool

Our Welcome programme continued in 12 primary and secondary schools in London, Sheffield, Birmingham and Leeds

3. Strengthen our funding with a broader mix of long-term contributors

- We will secure a funding mix split across corporate partners, trusts and foundations, donations and fund-raising events
- We will use our 15th birthday in 2022 as an opportunity for a large fundraising event, to raise money and attract new supporters
- We will look to new and existing funders to secure multi-year grants to give us greater income stability

Progress this year

We have secured a healthy mix of funding: 24% corporate partners, 73% trusts and foundations, 3% public donations and other sources

On the back of our huge success at Chelsea Flower Show, we launched our first-ever crowdfunding campaign to translate public support into outdoor learning opportunities for more children. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we surpassed our target of £20,000, enabling us to deliver over 100 additional gardening sessions

We are becoming more successful at securing multi-year grants. United Saint Saviour's Charity has invested in our Welcome programme in Southwark for two years. The Dulverton Trust is funding Young Marketeers for two years, and Garfield Weston is supporting all our food education for two years. This is in addition to the three year grant from The Fishmongers' Company

4. Improve the charity's resilience by strengthening our team, developing skills and sharing responsibilities

- We will recruit a Communications Manager, an Evaluation Manager and an Office Manager to bring additional skills and expertise to our core team
- With a larger core team, we will be able to support operations outside London
- We will use technology to allow us to deliver projects more efficiently

Progress this year

We have continued to build our team outside London and now have 14 freelance project officers and gardeners to support our rapidly growing food education programmes

Our commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion has seen our EDI values embedded, including a complete transformation of our recruitment processes

This year, we have continued to use Airtable to support the management of programmes and the collection of quantitative and qualitative data for evaluation reports and internal learning. Additionally, we now use it to track communications with journalists, policymakers, and campaign supporters and a Superuser Group has been established to support this work

5. Build our network to enable us to campaign more effectively, reach more schools and deliver more projects

- We will actively build relationships with new organisations to work alongside School Food Matters on project delivery and on campaigns
- We will compile a database of target organisations to work with, who are active in Food Education, Food Policy and Food Provision, and will consider when we are best placed to lead and when to support at a local and national level
- We will co-ordinate our network of public and private sector partners to deliver a more powerful voice and a greater influence on Food Education, Food Policy and Food Provision

Progress this year

We have played a significant role in establishing the Food Education Network, an alliance of organisations and individuals committed to championing food education in England. In addition, we continue to play an active role in the Eating Better alliance, which unites 68 organisations to work towards a fairer, healthier and more sustainable food system

This year has seen some impactful research collaborations. Our Cost of a School Meal research revealed a critical shortfall in government funding to guarantee nutritious and sustainable school food, positioning School Food Matters as a key player within the policy and research space

Our ongoing collaboration with ICF on the longitudinal mixed-methods evaluation of the Healthy Zones work in Lambeth, Southwark, Westminster and Tower Hamlets continues and is in the last stages, all of which will be used to shape the programme for the final tranche of delivery.

Review of activities

School Food Matters has built strong relationships with project partners, and together we develop flagship programmes which continue to grow year on year. Our partnerships are key to the success of our charity and enable us to deliver high quality food education programmes to our beneficiaries. We value the role our partners play and will continue to nurture these important relationships. We appreciate our partners' long-term commitment to the projects highlighted below.

Whole Foods Market & Whole Kids Foundation

This year marked our 12th year working with the Whole Kids Foundation. Despite Whole Foods Market store closures in Richmond and Fulham, our **Schools to Market** programme was another huge success. School children raised more than £1,400 selling their chutneys on Market Day, all the money going back to the schools to support food education projects. This year, we expanded our **Honeybee Programme**, adding an assembly to the elements delivered to schools. In total, almost 3,000 students learned about the importance of pollinators. We awarded 48 **Garden Grants** to schools in seven London boroughs, providing them with funds to create or update their edible growing space and support from our school gardeners.

> *"It's amazing that the children have seen from harvesting to making to eating. Fantastic for all children involved!"*
> Teacher, Schools to Market programme

Impact on Urban Health

Our flagship **Healthy Zones** programme, designed to create sustained improvements to school food environments, continues to expand and develop. Our work in Lambeth and Southwark is now solidly established and the evaluation findings are helping us to devise a plan for a streamlined version of the programme to scale and expand beyond London.

> *"It's brilliant what's happening, it's making me feel like I should choose a healthier option. It's changing my mindset and if I can change my mindset, I can help the kids."*
> Secondary school staff member, Healthy Zones

Whilst Healthy Zones is making changes at a local level, Impact on Urban Health recognises that to tackle health inequalities, school food policy needs to change. With Bite Back 2030, Chefs in Schools and The Food Foundation, School Food Matters continues to co-ordinate the **School Food Review (SFR)**. Our shared mission is to realise the full potential of the school food system through government reform so that no child misses out on good nutrition at school. This year we updated the SFR research evidence base to inform our briefings to MPs. Post-election, to enable the new government and ministers to implement and deploy better school food policies, we worked together to develop a School Food Policy Toolkit.

> *"I would like to congratulate the School Food Review for the work undertaken this year at a time of significant change and uncertainty. It has never been more important to create a school environment which is both welcoming and nurturing. Establishing a great school food culture is the best way to do this as it gives children an overwhelming feeling of belonging."*
> Dr Nick Capstick OBE, Chair of the School Food Review

Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation & The Orp Foundation

This year we developed two new relationships to support our activities around policy development, campaigns and communications. Together, Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation and The Orp Foundation have enabled us to grow our team and deliver a hard-hitting media campaign. Two Cities highlights the disparity in access to school meals, focussing on two cities in England: Liverpool and London, seen through the eyes of school children and the school cooks who serve them.

> *"The Two Cities campaign is incredibly important in shining a light on the disparity in accessing free school meals across England. A child in Liverpool, whose family earns just above the low threshold to qualify, might miss out on vital nutrition, while in London, universal free school meals access ensures no child is excluded. As part of Two Cities, our school children were able to voice their opinions on this reality, calling it 'unfair' and urging for change."*
> Headteacher, Phoenix Primary School, Liverpool

United St Saviour's Charity

In partnership with United St Saviour's Charity, we have been able to further develop and roll out our Welcome programme, piloted in 2022 from core funds. As part of a two year programme, we have delivered small, intimate food growing sessions for children who are newly arrived in the UK. These sessions are focussed on the wellbeing of the children and are often led by their interests and curiosities. They provide a different pace to school life, and many children report that they feel calmer after gardening with us.

> *"This is so much fun! I love the feeling of the soil and the clay in my hands, it is really relaxing. I think I want to do it again at home."*
> Child, Welcome programme

Borough Market & Dulverton Trust

In 2024 we continued our successful partnership with Borough Market to support our Young Marketeers programme in London. Now in its 12th year, the programme has expanded to cities across the country, thanks to The Dulverton Trust, which continues to support schools in Liverpool, Manchester, Bedford and Gloucestershire.

> *"It's been amazing, it exceeded all expectations. I was a bit nervous on growing food as I'm learning myself. We have learned so much through the project. The children have gained confidence, they've got a thirst for growing their own produce and by creating the menus they have realised what they can do with what they've grown. They've learned so many skills."*
> Teacher, Young Marketeers programme

Belazu Ingredient Company

Our Fresh Enterprise programme continues to be popular with eight schools now participating. This year's winning paste was Chef's Spicy Kiss from Kingsley Academy, a great achievement from a school that had only just introduced cooking classes. And Belazu continues to support our Holiday Food and Fun programme during the Easter and summer holidays, with 88 children invited to engage in fun activities, including gardening and cooking, and enjoy a nutritious hot meal each day.

> *"We'd never done cooking at our school before this year. The cooking was the best bit of the project, and I loved it. I loved combining all the flavours, visiting the factory and coming to the Taste Panel today."*
> Student, Fresh Enterprise programme



Financial support

We are grateful for the support received from our funders and project partners over the course of this financial year:

- Belazu Ingredient Company
- Betty Messenger Charitable Foundation
- Borough Market
- Dulverton Trust
- Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust
- Garfield Weston
- GLA Kitchen Social
- Impact on Urban Health
- Kristian Gerhart Jebson Foundation
- Nineveh Trust
- NWF Foundation
- Ocado Retail
- Peter Stebbings Memorial Fund
- Pukka Herbs
- The Britwell Trust
- The Magpie Charitable Trust
- The Orp Foundation
- Torus
- United St Saviour's Charity
- Westminster Foundation
- Whole Kids Foundation

Financial review

For the year ended 31 August 2024, total incoming resources amounted to £1,217,527 compared to £1,217,861 last year. Expenditure for the year to 31 August 2024 was £1,188,195 compared to £1,193,560 last year.

Any funds described as "restricted income" are available only for the specific projects or purposes determined by the funders. In addition, the charity holds "designated funds" which have been raised for a specific purpose or project. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out in the accounts that follow.

Reserves

As part of the 2023/24 year end process, School Food Matters' finance sub-committee reviewed the charity's Reserves Policy. It was confirmed that the policy was still considered appropriate and that School Food Matters would maintain free reserves:

- To provide a sustainable and appropriate level of working capital
- To allow for periods of unexpected drops in planned income
- To cope with sudden short-term increases in planned expenditure
- To provide cover for other risks, contingencies or unforeseen events which would have a low likelihood of occurring but would have a significant impact on School Food Matters

To this end, School Food Matters aims to accumulate unrestricted reserves equal to at least three to six months' unrestricted expenditure. Our unrestricted reserves currently stand at £135,512. Therefore, it is deemed that in this financial year there were adequate funds to ensure the charity was able to meet all current, known and some estimated possible future liabilities.

Our reserves currently stand at £148,306 which includes £12,794 in respect of designated funds that are anticipated to be spent during the financial year to August 2025.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

School Food Matters is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28 July 2008 and registered as a charity on 4 February 2010.

The company is governed under its Articles of Association. The Trustees have a responsibility to ensure that all aspects of the charity's activities are properly conducted and carried out in full compliance with its Articles of Association. The Trustees meet at least four times a year and attend an additional strategy day together with School Food Matters staff. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. No expenses were claimed by any Trustee during the year.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Trustees are appointed under the terms of the Articles of Association. Each new Trustee is given a copy of the Articles of Association, details of their responsibilities as a charity trustee, background on the charity's strategy and current projects and other information useful in pursuing their role. They will also have access to all SFM policies including our insurance policies. Trustees are invited to visit our projects so that they can familiarise themselves with our work. The Trustees are recruited in consultation with the Chief Executive to ensure that the requisite skills are available to support the charity's activities.

Staff, training and fair pay

School Food Matters has 20 core members of staff (15.3 FTE) and is governed by a board of nine Trustees. We continue to be able to recruit high-quality volunteers to undertake a range of useful tasks in all areas of our work. School Food Matters is very grateful for the many benefits they bring. This year, School Food Matters has had over 109 days work delivered by a group of 49 talented volunteers, many of whom are going on to enjoy professional development opportunities delivered by the charity's staff.

In January 2018, School Food Matters became an accredited Living Wage Employer, committed to paying the London Living Wage, as calculated by the Living Wage Foundation, which reflects the cost of living.

In November 2022, our Chief Executive was accepted onto the Forward Institute's Fellowship programme, a 16 month leadership programme which aims to equip senior leaders with the skills to lead responsibly, supported through collaboration with fellows from the private, public and charity sectors. School Food Matters received a bursary, to the value of £25,000.

Fundraising

A proportion of the charity's income is from grants from the trusts and foundations listed in this Annual Report. All funding bids are developed by School Food Matters staff. In this financial year we have allocated £20,800 to raising funds from trusts and foundations which covers staff time and overheads.

Role of Trustees

The Trustees provide governance and develop the policies of the charity, and accept ultimate legal authority for it. The Trustees formulate and regularly review the long and short term strategic aims of the charity as well as setting specific goals and priorities. The Trustees approve budgets and are responsible for the good stewardship of the charity's resources. They work in partnership with the Chief Executive with a view to furthering the charity's objectives. The Trustees, who are also directors of the company, each have a limited liability of £1 in the event of the charity being wound up. Biographies of Trustees can be found on the School Food Matters website.

Role of Chief Executive

The Chief Executive provides leadership to employees and is responsible for the operational detail and implementation of the charity's strategy. The Chief Executive is also responsible for the management of the charity, including control of expenditure in line with budgets and delegations approved by the Board. The Chief Executive reports regularly to the Trustees on progress against agreed priorities and objectives and seeks opportunities to expand and promote the organisation.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed the major strategic, business and operational risks to which School Food Matters is exposed. These include governance and compliance issues, loss of key members of staff, changing government policy, project or campaign failure and loss of income. The Trustees confirm that systems have been established to mitigate any such risks, that appropriate insurance cover has been obtained and that the assessment of risks is kept under review. The charity's risk register, a working document for which the senior management team and Trustees are responsible, is reviewed annually by Trustees and School Food Matters' management team. It considers the possible risks to the charity and prudent ways to avoid such risks arising, as well as mitigation should problems occur.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees consider the principal risks to School Food Matters to be:

Risk	Mitigation
Loss of senior management team	School Food Matters has a senior management team of four. Losing one or more of the team members risks interruption to financial reporting, fundraising, advocacy and campaigning activities. Should the charity lose its Chief Executive, there would be significant recruitment costs, and Trustees would be engaged in the recruitment process. To mitigate these risks, the senior management team meets monthly to share information. All management documents are accessible to the management team, our succession plan is regularly reviewed and updated by Trustees, and the wider staff team has received media training to develop a pool of well-informed advocates to comment on our campaigns.
Damage to reputation	We are proud of our reputation and review our activities and relationships carefully to reflect this. Mitigating activities include compliance with Charity Commission and Companies House regulations, embedding policies and practices that reflect our commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, carrying out risk assessments and ensuring HR policies, such as safeguarding, whistleblowing and data protection and confidentiality, are in place. With our Press and Communications team in place, we are better able to respond to challenges to our reputation in a timely and efficient manner.
Failure to meet funding targets	Fundraising is always challenging and the charity must forecast effectively and be prepared for shortfalls. Mitigating activities include monitoring reserves on a monthly basis to ensure our minimum target is reached, reporting monthly cashflow to the finance sub-committee, building a project contingency fund to address shortfalls and cancelling any proposed work that remains unfunded. We must be prepared to reduce staffing levels if a significant shortfall is forecast. We will continue to diversify our income streams so that we are not over-reliant on trusts and foundations.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of School Food Matters for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

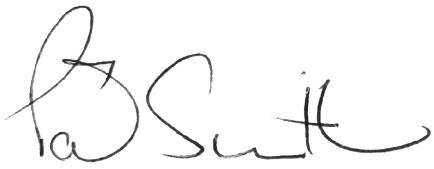
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed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

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information

Report of the Trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 16 January 2025 and signed on the Board's behalf by



Mr Paul Smith
Trustee



Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of School Food Matters (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed, right.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance.

Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Christopher Julian Brigstocke FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Collards Chartered Accountants
5-9 Eden Street
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey KT1 1BQ
16 January 2025

Reference and administrative details

Company Registration Number	06657048 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration Number	1134094
Patrons	Baroness Rosie Boycott Princess Dora Loewenstein
Directors/Trustees	Max Beazley Jared Brading Alayna Francis Ossie Gray Mecca Ibrahim (appointed 19 October 2023) Nyasha Kambarami (resigned 19 October 2023) Rebecca O'Connell (Chair from 27 October 2023) Ben Reynolds Paul Smith Katarina Zlateva-Bowles (appointed 19 January 2024)
Chief Executive	Stephanie Slater
Registered Office	The Bridge 7b Parkshot London TW9 2RD
Independent Auditors	Collards Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors 5-9 Eden Street Kingston upon Thames Surrey KT1 1BQ

Bankers

Santander 2 Triton Square Regent's Place London NW1 3AN	Triodos Deanery Road Bristol BS1 5AS	Nationwide Building Society Kings Park Road Moulton Park Northampton NN3 6NW

Statement of financial activities

(incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

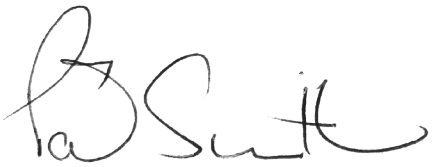
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	3	28,658	-	-	28,658	66,943
Other income		2,570	-	-	2,570	19,263
Trusts and Foundations		90,333	200,894	-	291,227	120,395
Charitable activities	5					
Project management and services		-	579,314	248,992	828,306	915,727
Membership		600	-	-	600	1,500
Grant-making		-	62,517	-	62,517	92,881
Investment income	4	3,649	-	-	3,649	1,152
Total		125,810	842,725	248,992	1,217,527	1,217,861
EXPENDITURE ON						
Staff costs	11	84,678	487,569	50,036	622,283	572,593
Cost of raising funds	6	20,800	-	-	20,800	20,209
Project management and services	7	-	255,820	198,956	454,776	514,234
Overheads and governance	8	-	90,336	-	90,336	86,524
		105,478	833,725	248,992	1,188,195	1,193,560
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE		20,332	9,000	-	29,332	24,301
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		115,180	3,794	-	118,974	94,673
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		135,512	12,794	-	148,306	118,974

Balance sheet

At 31 August 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	12	**7,843**	**-**	**-**	**7,843**	6,853
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	13	**-**	**158,517**	**-**	**158,517**	111,843
Cash at bank		**163,621**	**155,226**	**90,199**	**409,046**	210,120
		163,621	**313,743**	**90,199**	**567,563**	321,963
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	14	**(35,952)**	**(300,949)**	**(90,199)**	**(427,100)**	(209,842)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**127,669**	**12,794**	**-**	**140,463**	112,121
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**135,512**	**12,794**	**-**	**148,306**	118,974
NET ASSETS		**135,512**	**12,794**	**-**	**148,306**	118,974
FUNDS	16					
Unrestricted funds					**135,512**	115,179
Designated funds					**12,794**	3,795
Restricted funds					**-**	-
TOTAL FUNDS					**148,306**	118,974

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 16 January 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr Paul Smith
Trustee

Cash flow statement

For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	18	**198,953**	(177,318)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		**198,953**	(177,318)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(3,676)**	-
Interest received		**3,649**	1,152
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		**(27)**	1,152
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		**198,926**	(176,166)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		**210,120**	386,286
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	19	**409,046**	210,120

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2024

1. Statutory information

School Food Matters is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found in the report of the Trustees. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

2. 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)", the 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.

School Food Matters meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102..

Income
Income, including grants, is recognised when::

- the charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met;
- it is probable that the income will be received; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met. Membership income is accounted for in the year that it is received. Income is stated after trade discounts, other sales taxes and net of VAT.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure:

- as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure;
- when 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 are depreciated by 25% on reducing balance and 20% costs.

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.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds allocated by the charity for particular 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
School Food Matters operates a defined contribution pension scheme administered by NEST. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations	28,658	-	28,658	66,943

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Deposit account interest	3,649	-	3,649	1,152

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted & designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Project management & services				
29 May 1961 Charitable Foundation	-	-	-	5,000
Abel & Cole	-	-	-	1,500
Belazu Ingredient Company	26,000	-	26,000	28,205
Borough Market	9,975	-	9,975	-
Clearwater Wealth Management	-	-	-	20,916
Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust	-	24,315	24,315	23,389
GLA Kitchen Social	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
Gosling Foundation	-	-	-	7,000
Honourable Company of Gloucestershire	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Impact on Urban Health	298,696	199,610	498,306	668,364
NWF	-	16,667	16,667	-
Ocado	48,183	-	48,183	-
Pukka Herbs	9,428	-	9,428	-
Schools/Local Councils	61,722	-	61,722	29,106
St Walter St John	-	-	-	1,000
Tesco	5,000	-	5,000	-
Torus	8,800	-	8,800	-
United St Saviour's Charity	-	6,400	6,400	-
Whole Kids Foundation	110,510	-	110,510	128,247
	579,314	248,992	828,306	915,727
Membership Income	600	-	600	1,500
Grant-making funds	62,517	-	62,517	92,881
	642,431	248,992	891,423	1,010,108

6. Raising funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	10,300	10,588
Rent, rates and water	5,459	4,861
Insurance	323	244
Telephone	309	359
Stationery & office costs	3,767	3,763
Travel	399	165
Depreciation	243	229
	20,800	20,209

7. Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs	Support costs (see note 8)	Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	622,283	-	622,283
Cost of raising funds	10,300	10,500	20,800
Project management and services	374,942	79,835	454,777
	1,007,525	90,335	1,097,860

8. Support costs

	Overheads	Governance costs	Total
	£	£	£
Cost of raising funds	10,500	-	10,500
Overheads and governance	73,835	6,000	79,835
	84,335	6,000	90,335

9. Net income/(expenditure)

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation–owned assets	2,686	2,297
Auditors remuneration	6,000	6,000
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	-	256
Operating lease costs – rent	44,175	44,175

10. Key management personnel

There were no salaries or other benefits paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2024 nor for the year ended 31 August 2023. There were no expenses paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2024 nor for the year ended 31 August 2023.

The total employee benefits of key management personnel, including pension contributions, for the year to 31 August 2024 were £197,833 (£135,972 for the year to 31 August 2023).

Pay for key management personnel at School Food Matters has been benchmarked and reflects the market rate for comparable jobs in comparable organisations. Pay also reflects level of knowledge, skills and experience required, and the responsibilities and accountabilities associated with each role. Staff pay is reviewed annually and agreed with the Trustees.

11. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages	**562,336**	518,649
Social security	**49,984**	45,008
Pensions	**20,263**	19,524
	632,583	583,181

In addition to employing staff, the charity also benefits from the use of unpaid volunteers. During the year this amounted to the equivalent of 109 days work which if paid at the London Living Wage would have cost the charity £11,467 in wages. (£13,260 for 150 days work for the year to 31 August 2023).

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

	2024	2023
Admin & support staff	**18**	19
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	**15.3**	16.0

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

	2024	2023
£60,001 - £70,000	**1**	0

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 September 2023	**16,265**
Additions	**3,676**
At 31 August 2024	**19,941**
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2023	**9,412**
Charge for year	**2,686**
At 31 August 2024	**12,098**
Net book value	
At 31 August 2024	**7,843**
At 31 August 2023	**6,853**

13. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	22,030	12,150
Accrued income	129,743	95,219
Other debtors	782	-
Prepayments	5,962	4,474
	158,517	111,843

Trade debtors relate to amounts due in respect of unrestricted fund programmes.

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	14,691	11,200
Trade creditors	67,338	4,312
Accruals and deferred income	345,071	194,330
	427,100	209,842

Accruals and deferred income includes £47,041 (£17,946 in 2023) in payments due to suppliers for costs incurred during the year. Deferred income relates to food education projects that have either spanned into the next financial year or where the payments received do not match the timing of the spend.

The movement on deferred income is as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Brought forward	176,383	319,242
Recognised this year	(155,583)	(300,342)
Income received this year being deferred	277,230	157,483
Carried forward	298,030	176,383

Within the above £0 (2023: £20,800) is expected to be deferred by over 12 months.

15. Leasing agreements

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Within one year	11,044	11,044

16. Movement in funds

	At 01.09.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.08.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	115,180	21,842	**137,022**
Designated – Food education projects	–	11,284	**11,284**
Designated – Foresters School Gardens	3,794	(3,794)	**–**
	118,974	29,332	**148,306**
Total funds	118,974	29,332	**148,306**

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	**125,810**	**(103,968)**	**21,842**
Designated – Food education projects	**780,209**	**(768,925)**	**11,284**
Designated – Foresters School Gardens	**–**	**(3,794)**	**(3,794)**
Designated – Whole Kids Foundation Garden Grants	**62,516**	**(62,516)**	**–**
	968,535	**(939,203)**	**29,332**
Restricted funds			
Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust	**24,315**	**(24,315)**	**–**
GLA Kitchen Social	**2,000**	**(2,000)**	**–**
Impact on Urban Health	**199,610**	**(199,610)**	**–**
NWF	**16,667**	**(16,667)**	**–**
United St Saviour's Charity	**6,400**	**(6,400)**	**–**
	248,992	**(248,992)**	**–**
Total funds	**1,217,527**	**(1,188,195)**	**29,332**

16. Movement in funds – continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 01.09.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.08.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	94,673	20,506	115,179
Designated – Foresters School Gardens	–	3,795	3,795
Total funds	94,673	24,301	118,974

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	110,289	(89,783)	20,506
Designated – Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants	70,042	(70,042)	-
Designated – Chelsea Garden Location	10,000	(10,000)	-
Designated – Food education projects	990,141	(990,141)	-
Designated – Foresters School Gardens	12,000	(8,205)	3,795
	1,192,472	(1,168,171)	24,301
Restricted funds			
Fishmongers Company Charitable Trust	23,389	(23,389)	-
GLA Kitchen Social	2,000	(2,000)	-
	25,389	(25,389)	
Total funds	1,217,861	(1,193,560)	24,301

The Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants Fund (a Designated Income Fund) is a fund from the Whole Kids Foundation which is available to schools to allow them to develop school gardens where pupils can learn about growing fruit and vegetables.

The Impact on Urban Health Fund (split between both Restricted and Designated) is a fund to support local schools in areas of high childhood obesity in Lambeth and Southwark to make positive changes to their food environment throughout the school day alongside influencing decision-makers to improve school food. As per the project agreement part of the fund is required to be treated as restricted funds.

The Fishmongers' Company's Charitable Trust fund (a restricted income fund) is to provide funding to deliver the Know Your Onions programme in secondary schools in Camden, Hackney, Islington and Tower Hamlets.

The NWF Fund (a restricted income fund) is to provide funding for the Healthy Zones Continuation Programme over two years.

The United St Saviour's Fund (a restricted income fund) is to provide funding for Welcome gardening sessions.

The Kitchen Social restricted income fund is to provide funding for running school holiday food and fun programmes.

The food education projects fund (a designated income fund) is a collection of several similar funds which relate to providing food education to schools and other bodies. These funds are provided by various organisations, trusts and other charitable organisations.

17. Related party disclosures

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

18. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	**29,332**	24,301
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**2,686**	2,298
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**-**	256
Interest received	**(3,649)**	(1,152)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**(46,674)**	(24,107)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**217,258**	(178,914)
	198,953	(177,318)

Trade debtors relate to amounts due in respect of unrestricted fund programmes.

19. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 01.09.23	Cash flow	At 31.08.24
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	210,120	198,926	409,046
	210,120	198,926	409,046
Total	210,120	198,926	409,046



School Food Matters
The Bridge
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London TW9 2RD
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www.schoolfoodmatters.org

SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1134094

Accounts



SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended
31 August 2023

Registered Company Number: 06657048 • Registered Charity Number: 1134094



Contents

A word from our Chair of Trustees	3
Our impact in 2023	4
Report of the Trustees	6
Independent Auditor's Report	19
Reference and administrative details	22
Statement of financial activities	23
Balance sheet	24
Cash flow statement	25
Notes to the financial statements	26

A word from our Chair of Trustees

This year has been challenging for many charities with the cost-of-living crisis biting hard, creating unprecedented demand for services and fierce competition for grant funding. It was the year we learned that 900,000 children living in poverty are missing out on free school meals at a time of spiralling food inflation, making it even harder for families to feed their children well. Our work to reform the school food system, so that no child misses out on the nutrition they need to thrive, has become urgent but the forthcoming general election has distracted ministers from children's health, and hard-won commitments in the Levelling Up white paper are still languishing on the government's 'to do' list.

Happily, in February, there was some good news from City Hall, with London's Mayor committing to provide free school meals to all children in Key Stage two, meaning that every child in a London primary school now has access to a hot lunch. School Food Matters will continue to celebrate this commitment to children's health and will support robust evaluation in order to build better policy for all children across England, regardless of their postcode or their parent's pay packet.

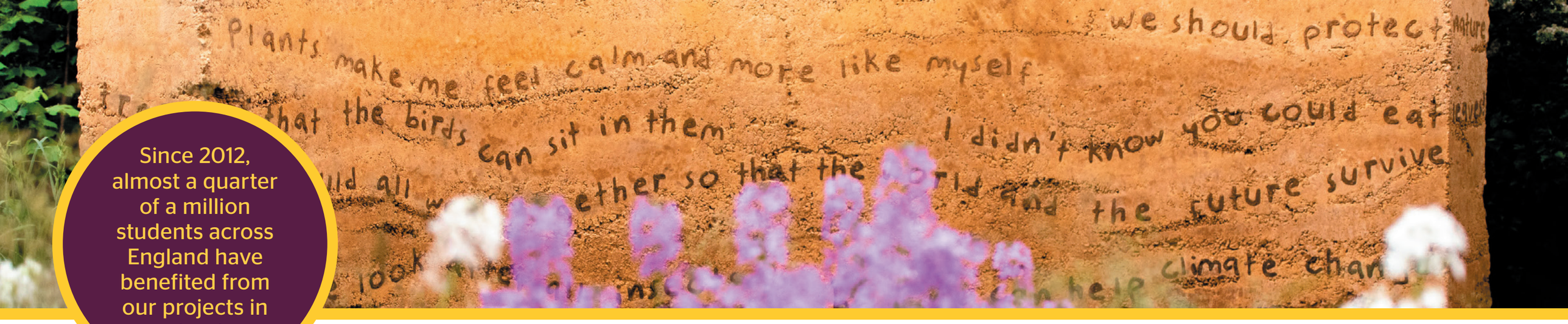
For School Food Matters, 2023 has been a year of celebrations. To mark our 15th birthday, we kicked off in January with a 5x15 speaker event chaired by our patron, Baroness Rosie Boycott. Professor Tim Spector, headteacher Reema Reid, Professor Tim Lang, TV gardener Diarmuid Gavin and The Food Programme's Dan Saladino were joined by over 150 supporters to talk about why school food matters. Despite the stellar line-up, the speakers were somewhat upstaged by young chefs from St Mary's RC Primary School who created and served canapés, demonstrating the cooking skills learned through our programmes.

And the celebrations didn't stop there. In May, School Food Matters reached a global audience with its show-stopping garden at Chelsea Flower Show. Our garden, designed to highlight the importance of food education and outdoor learning, attracted national news coverage including five reports on the BBC. Once more it was children who stole the show with the choir from Alec Reed Academy dominating Press Day. Show week ended with the School Food Matters garden receiving The People's Choice Award, some significant donations and two lucky schools receiving award-winning gardens.

Back at School Food Matters HQ, the team has been hard at work developing systems and processes to better evaluate the charity's impact and to share learning across the staff team in Lunch and Learn sessions. All feedback from our programmes is now uploaded to a central database which allows us to track progress, monitor impact and provide the big numbers for this report. This practice of shared learning is used to explore issues around Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, with all staff training sessions on neurodiversity, gender identity and a focus on cultural awareness to follow.

And finally, 2023 marks the end of my term as Chair of Trustees. In 2024, I'll be passing the baton to my fellow trustee, Professor Rebecca O'Connell. I'm honoured to have been in this role over a period that has seen the charity navigate turbulent external circumstances, and to do so with increased impact and growth. I'm pleased to report that I will remain on the board to support our new Chair as she helps to guide the organisation through its next successful phase.

Ben Reynolds
Chair of Trustees



Since 2012, almost a quarter of a million students across England have benefited from our projects in schools

Our impact in 2023

WE CONNECT CHILDREN TO THEIR FOOD IN NEW WAYS

590
children visited a farm with us this year. For 150 children, this was the first time they'd seen food growing.

60%
of students learned more about where their food comes from through our programmes.

57%
tasted a food or flavour they'd never tried before.

WE GET CHILDREN GARDENING

2,285
children attended our gardening workshops this year. For 117 refugee children, our Welcome sessions supported their integration into a new school.

61%
of children are now interested in gardening and growing.

WE BUILD LIFE SKILLS TOO

508
children sold food they'd grown or cooked at their local market, managing money, interacting with the public and encouraging sales.

75%
of children told us that they'd improved their teamworking skills through the project.

WE INSPIRE CHILDREN TO COOK

1,648
children attended our cooking sessions this year.

57%
were left more interested in cooking.

Their teachers benefited too – **69%** of teachers watching our cooks in action felt more confident to teach cooking at school.

54%
of children involved in our projects tell us that they're happier at school as a result.

And we spread joy!



Report of the Trustees



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 August 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).

Objectives and activities

Our Mission

School Food Matters exists to teach children about food and to improve children's access to healthy, sustainable food during their time at school.

Objectives and Aims

The objectives of the charity are to advance the education, and promote the health, of school children and their families in particular but not exclusively by:

- developing and improving knowledge and understanding of food, food production, health and sustainable food production amongst local authorities, schools, pupils and their families, school caterers and others; and
- encouraging and monitoring good practice in the provision of and access to fresh and nutritionally healthy food in schools

Activities

School Food Matters provides fully funded food education programmes to schools. Our experience delivering these programmes informs and strengthens our campaigns, bringing the voices of children, parents and teachers to government policy. The charity is engaged in the following activities:

- We campaign on issues relating to school food, children's health and food education
- We raise funds from trusts and foundations to support our campaigning
- We devise, develop and deliver food education projects with partners
- We provide a membership programme for schools and have an online community of schools that support our mission.

Public Benefit

The Trustees are aware of Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011. They believe School Food Matters fulfils a fundamental public benefit by promoting the health, and advancing the education, of school children and their families.

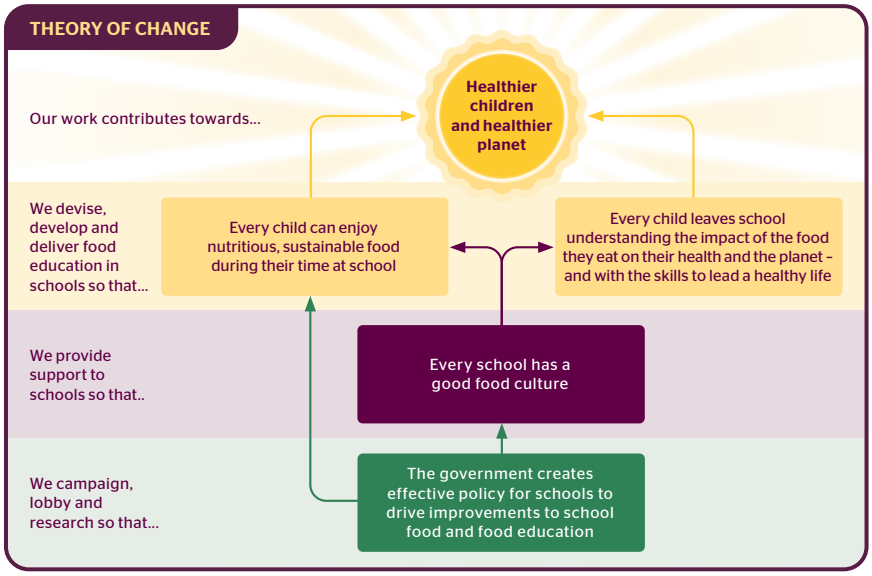


About School Food Matters

School Food Matters was born out of a grassroots campaign led by one parent to transform the food on offer at her children's primary school. The campaign successfully transformed school food in 38 primary schools in London from frozen ready meals to freshly prepared food made from quality ingredients. Take up of school meals doubled and the price to parents was reduced by 38p, proving that delivering fresh, sustainable school food was possible.

From its grassroots beginnings, School Food Matters has grown into an influential charity which exists to teach children about food and to improve access to healthy, sustainable food during their time at school. In 2007 our campaign was about the quality of school meals. In 2023 our focus has been on ***access*** to healthy food, as we tackle the twin challenges brought about by stark health inequalities across the UK: child obesity and hunger.

Our work is guided by a Theory of Change and three areas of work: food education, food provision and food policy.



Food education: Food education in England requires our attention as, despite food and nutrition being a mandatory part of the national curriculum, delivery is patchy, and the policy did not come with government funding for teacher training or resources for schools.

Food provision: Our focus on food provision is not about providing school catering, rather making the school food system work better for children.

Food policy: At School Food Matters we believe that every child in every school should have access to food education and the good nutrition they need to thrive. For that to happen we must change policy.



Strategy for 2020-2025

This year staff and Trustees came together to review our strategy for 2020-2025 to ensure we're on track and delivering our mission. Our framework of five priorities for success is still relevant and we are making excellent progress towards our goals.

1. Grow our profile to improve our charity's ability to influence government policy

- We will build a library of quantitative and qualitative data to measure the effect of our work in schools
- We will increase advocacy by making current and new supporters aware of our campaigns
- We will raise awareness by using social media, press coverage and personal communication and use the evidence we collect to substantiate our stories

Progress this year

On our website, our News & Views section now features an expanded collection of case studies, amplifying the voices of the schools, children and families we serve. Subscribers to our Latest News & Blogs have nearly tripled

With more than 30 campaign partners, we have agreed a policy position, a manifesto and a messaging guide to represent our shared vision for school food in England

We used our Chelsea Flower Show garden to bring our charity to the attention of a global audience. This resulted in 40 print media articles and a dozen features on TV, radio and podcasts, including five appearances on the BBC during the show

2. Increase our impact by delivering more projects at more schools in and outside London

- We will focus on new regions, offering our programmes to 25 schools outside London to establish a network in five new regions
- We will secure the support of new partners to deliver new projects in the regions
- We will use the tried-and-tested programmes established in London schools to extend delivery beyond the capital

Progress this year

Our Young Marketeers programme in 2023 featured 54 schools with 30 outside London, across Liverpool, Leeds, Birmingham and Gloucestershire. In 2024 we will add Leicester and Manchester

Dulverton Trust funded 17 schools in Leeds, Birmingham and Liverpool and a new corporate partner, Clearwater International, funded eight more schools in Leeds and Birmingham

Our Welcome programme continued in 10 primary and secondary schools in London and Sheffield

"Another brilliant year from School Food Matters! The team continues to be tireless in its pursuit of healthy, sustainable food for all children – whether that be delivering impact direct to schools and pupils, or in making the case for a better, more equitable school food system to policymakers across the country. A huge thank you from Impact on Urban Health for all of your fantastic work, and we can't wait for an even more impactful year in 2024."

Mark Heffernan
Impact on Urban Health

3. Strengthen our funding with a broader mix of long-term contributors

- We will secure a funding mix split across corporate partners, trusts and foundations, donations and fund-raising events
- We will use our 15th birthday in 2022 as an opportunity for a large fundraising event, to raise money and attract new supporters
- We will look to new and existing funders to secure multi-year grants to give us greater income stability

Progress this year

We have secured a healthy mix of funding: 43% corporate partners, 34% trusts and foundations, 23% public donations and other sources

We celebrated our 15th birthday with two high-profile events: 5x15 and Chelsea Flower Show. Together these events raised £54,000 in core funds

This year we have been approached by, and developed a successful bid for, a new foundation which learned of our work thanks to the Chelsea Flower Show

4. Improve the charity's resilience by strengthening our team, developing skills and sharing responsibilities

- We will recruit a Communications Manager, an Evaluation Manager and an Office Manager to bring additional skills and expertise to our core team
- With a larger core team, we will be able to support operations outside London
- We will use technology to allow us to deliver projects more efficiently

Progress this year

We have recruited a team of talented freelancers to deliver our programmes in seven cities outside London

We have continued our programme of organisation-wide EDI learning sessions, including sessions on gender and neurodiversity

We have further developed our database, Airtable, to allow us to manage our projects more efficiently and collect qualitative and quantitative data for evaluations

5. Build our network to enable us to campaign more effectively, reach more schools and deliver more projects

- We will actively build relationships with new organisations to work alongside School Food Matters on project delivery and on campaigns
- We will compile a database of target organisations to work with, who are active in Food Education, Food Policy and Food Provision, and will consider when we are best placed to lead and when to support at a local and national level
- We will co-ordinate our network of public and private sector partners to deliver a more powerful voice and a greater influence on Food Education, Food Policy and Food Provision

Progress this year

Through the School Food Review we commissioned PwC to undertake a cost-benefit analysis of free school meals expansion, spoke at the UN's World Food Forum, organised a Conservative Party Conference event and began work to integrate EDI into the Review

We reached out to our partners at Sustainable Food Places to find local expertise in seven new cities across England

We continue to seek opportunities to collaborate on research that extends the evidence for good school food. We were bid partners with University of Hertfordshire for lived experience work tendered by Impact on Urban Health and are part of The William Templeton Foundation's cross-sector research on diet and mental health

Review of Activities

School Food Matters has built strong relationships with project partners and together we develop flagship programmes which continue to grow year on year. Our partnerships are key to the success of our charity and enable us to deliver quality food education programmes to our beneficiaries. We value the role our partners play and will continue to nurture these important relationships. We appreciate our partners' long-term commitment to the projects highlighted below.

Whole Foods Market and Whole Kids Foundation

We are about to enter our 12th year working with the Whole Kids Foundation and the relationship continues to flourish. Schools participating in our **Schools to Market** programme raised more than £1,500, selling their school-made chutneys outside Whole Foods stores on Market Day, all of the money going back to the schools to be put towards food education projects. Our **Honeybee** programme continues to appeal to schools with more than 2,000 students learning about the importance of pollinators. Our **Garden Grants** programme provided more than 40 schools in seven London boroughs with funds to create or update their edible growing space.

> *"It's been fantastic! Seeing the children with such confidence approaching the public and talking to them about what they had achieved was great. To get to this point was amazing."*
>
> Teacher on the Schools to Market Programme

Foresters Financial

Through our work with the Whole Kids Foundation, we were introduced to a new project partner, Foresters Financial, a financial services company based in Canada, that focused on encouraging its members to get involved and volunteer with local community projects. The organisation runs a grant programme with members nominating a school in their area to receive a garden grant worth £3,000. School Food Matters took on the management of the programme in the UK and oversaw the creation of new gardens at schools in Bristol, Birmingham, Gravesend and Leeds with the help of Foresters' hardworking member volunteers.

> *"The children are REALLY loving the new space. And what an amazing group of people to be involved with – we can't thank everyone enough."*
>
> Teacher, Hannah More Primary School, Bristol

Belazu Ingredient Company

Our **Fresh Enterprise** programme continues to be hugely popular with schools and in 2023 two winning pastes were selected: Blushing Beets from Whitefield School and Smokey Spicy Sensation from Elthorne Park School. Belazu continues to support our Holiday Food and Fun programme during the Easter and summer holidays, with 141 children invited to engage in fun activities, including gardening and cooking and enjoy a healthy, hot meal each day.

> *"Many thanks to School Food Matters and Belazu for the fantastic opportunity to participate in the competition. Our students loved it! It was a great learning experience for all concerned and they were so proud of themselves when they got back to school."*
>
> Teacher on the Fresh Enterprise programme

Borough Market and The AIM Foundation

This year we continued our successful partnership with The AIM Foundation who join Borough Market to support our Young Marketeers programme in London. Now in its 11th year, the programme features three market days across the school year, one for each term. By selling their tasty soups or home-grown fruit and veg, our Young Marketeers raised £1,213 for The Felix Project across the three market days, providing 4,852 meals for vulnerable families.

> *"I like gardening because I'm not using electronics and actually breathing fresh air and I have the freedom of being outdoors."*

Student, Marlborough Primary School on the Young Marketeers Programme

Abel & Cole

Abel & Cole have donated 5,000 pieces of fruit each week to Bacon's College, a secondary school in Southwark, so that young people have access to a healthy snack during the school day.

> *"The fruit provided by Abel & Cole has been extremely well received by the school community and we are very grateful for their continued support and generosity. The students access the fruit throughout the school day, and it has become a permanent fixture during their Independent study periods."*

Vice Principal, Bacon's College

Impact on Urban Health

In partnership with Impact on Urban Health, our five-year **Healthy Zones** programme will reach 80 primary and secondary schools in Lambeth and Southwark, to create sustained changes to school food environments so that healthy food is prioritised throughout the school day. Our programme team of eight will support schools to develop school food policies and to provide healthier breakfast and after-school club menus. Based on the success of this model, Healthy Zones is also being delivered in Tower Hamlets and Westminster.

> *"Having the support of a charity like School Food Matters gave the kudos that a breakfast club should have in the school day. It also gave the breakfast club staff the support to try new ideas and changes that sometimes other staff/management maybe reluctant to try out. Also getting financial support is a key factor and gave us the freedom to try out new ideas that we could not have done otherwise."*

Teaching Assistant on Healthy Zones intervention at their Afterschool Club

Whilst Healthy Zones is making changes at a local level, Impact on Urban Health recognises that to tackle health inequalities, school food funding and policy needs to change. With Bite Back 2030, Chefs in Schools and The Food Foundation, School Food Matters is co-ordinating the **School Food Review**, bringing together representatives of catering staff, school leaders, local authorities, experts, campaigners, and, of course, school children. Our shared mission is to realise the full potential of the school food system through government reform so that no child misses out on good nutrition at school. This year we agreed a shared policy position across the 36 members of the working group, resulting in a messaging guide and manifesto in readiness for 2024's general election.

> *"The excellent messaging guide helped enormously in finalising the wording in our position statement on free school meals."*

Association of School and College Leaders



Our experience delivering these programmes informs and strengthens our campaigns, bringing the voices of children, parents and teachers to inform government policy. To this end, our Chief Executive sits on the following boards and committees:

- Alexandra Rose Charity (Trustee)
- All Party Parliamentary Group on School Food
- Capital Growth (Chair)
- School Food Plan Alliance (co-Chair)
- Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming (vice-Chair)
- CONNECTS-Food Partnership Board, University of York (Chair)
- Department for Education: School Food Standards Advisory Group (Member)

Financial Support

School Food Matters is grateful for the support received from our funders and project partners over the course of this financial year:

- 29 May 1961 Charitable Foundation
- Abel & Cole
- AIM Foundation
- Belazu Ingredient Company
- Betty Messenger Charitable Foundation
- Clearwater International
- Dulverton Trust
- Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust
- Foresters Financial
- Garfield Weston
- GLA Kitchen Social
- Gosling Foundation
- Grace Trust
- Impact on Urban Health
- Nineveh Trust
- Schools/Local Councils
- Souter Charitable Trust
- St Walter St John
- Westminster Foundation
- Whole Kids Foundation

Financial review

For the year ended 31 August 2023, total incoming resources amounted to £1,217,861 compared to £802,042 last year. Expenditure for 2022/23 was £1,193,560 compared to £930,987 last year.

Any funds described as 'restricted income' are available only for the specific projects or purposes determined by the funders. In addition, the charity holds 'designated funds' which have been raised for a specific purpose. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out in the accounts that follow.

Reserves

As part of the 2022/23 year-end process, School Food Matters' finance sub-committee reviewed the charity's Reserves Policy. It was confirmed that the policy was still considered appropriate and that School Food Matters would maintain free reserves:

- To provide a sustainable and appropriate level of working capital
- To allow for periods of unexpected drops in planned income
- To cope with sudden short-term increases in planned expenditure
- To provide cover for other risks, contingencies or unforeseen events which would have a low likelihood of occurring but would have a significant impact on School Food Matters

To this end, School Food Matters aims to accumulate unrestricted reserves equal to at least three to six months' unrestricted expenditure. Our unrestricted reserves currently stand at £115,179. Therefore, it is deemed that in this financial year there were adequate funds to ensure the charity was able to meet all current, known and some estimated possible future liabilities.

Our reserves currently stand at £118,974, which includes £3,795 in respect of designated funds that are anticipated to be spent during the year to August 2024.

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

School Food Matters is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28 July 2008 and registered as a charity on 4 February 2010.

The company is governed under its Articles of Association. The Trustees have a responsibility to ensure that all aspects of the charity's activities are properly conducted and carried out in full compliance with its Articles of Association. The Trustees normally meet at least three times a year and attend an additional strategy day together with School Food Matters staff. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. No expenses were claimed by any Trustee during the year.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Trustees are appointed under the terms of the Articles of Association. Each new Trustee is given a copy of the Articles of Association, details of their responsibilities as a charity trustee, background on the charity's strategy and current projects and other information useful in pursuing their role. They will also have access to all SFM policies including insurance and the charity's business plan. Trustees are invited to visit our projects so that they can familiarise themselves with our work. The Trustees are recruited in consultation with the Chief Executive to ensure that the requisite skills are available to support the charity's activities.

Staff, Training and Fair Pay

School Food Matters has 17 core members of staff (16.0 FTE) and is governed by a board of eight Trustees. We continue to be able to recruit high-quality volunteers to undertake a range of useful tasks in all areas of our work. School Food Matters is very grateful for the many benefits they bring. This year, School Food Matters has had over 150 days work delivered by a group of 40 talented volunteers, many of whom are going on to enjoy professional development opportunities delivered by the charity's staff.

In January 2018, School Food Matters became an accredited Living Wage Employer, committed to paying the London Living Wage, as calculated by the Living Wage Foundation, which reflects the cost of living.

Fundraising

A proportion of the charity's income is from grants from the trusts and foundations listed in this Annual Report. All funding bids are developed by School Food Matters staff. In this financial year we have allocated £20,209 to raising funds from trusts and foundations which covers staff time and overheads.

Role of Trustees

The Trustees provide governance and develop the policies of the charity, and accept ultimate legal authority for it. The Trustees formulate and regularly review the long and short term strategic aims of the charity as well as setting specific goals and priorities. The Trustees approve budgets and are responsible for the good stewardship of the charity's resources. They work in partnership with the Chief Executive with a view to furthering the charity's objectives. The Trustees, who are also the members of the Company, each have a limited liability of £1 in the event of the charity being wound up. Biographies of Trustees can be found on the School Food Matters website.

Role of Chief Executive

The Chief Executive provides leadership to employees and is responsible for the operational detail and implementation of the business plan and the management of the charity, including control of expenditure in line with budgets and delegations approved by the Board. The Chief Executive reports regularly to the Trustees on progress against agreed priorities and objectives and seeks opportunities to expand and promote the organisation.

Climate and Nature Policy

Our Climate and Nature policy recognises the climate and ecological emergency, and our commitment to addressing this crisis within our work. The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for this policy and continues to review the intersection of our work with the climate and ecological emergency. This is done through discussion, monitoring risk of the climate and ecological emergency on our work and ensuring we comply with all relevant legislation.

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the major strategic, business and operational risks to which School Food Matters is exposed. These include governance and compliance issues, loss of key members of staff, changing government policy, project or campaign failure and loss of income. The Trustees confirm that systems have been established to mitigate any such risks, that appropriate insurance cover has been obtained and that the assessment of risks is kept under review. The charity's risk register, a working document for which the senior management team and Trustees are responsible, is reviewed annually by Trustees and School Food Matters' management team. It considers the possible risks to the charity and prudent ways to avoid such risks arising, as well as mitigation should problems occur.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees consider the principal risks to School Food Matters to be:

Risk	Mitigation
Loss of senior management team	School Food Matters has a senior management team of four. Losing one or more of the team members risks interruption to financial reporting, fundraising, advocacy and campaigning activities. Should the charity lose its Chief Executive, there would be significant recruitment costs, and Trustees would be engaged in the recruitment process. To mitigate these risks, the senior management team meets monthly to share information. All management documents are accessible to the management team, our succession plan is regularly reviewed and updated by Trustees and the wider staff team has received media training to develop a pool of well-informed advocates to comment on our campaigns.
Damage to reputation	We are proud of our reputation and review our activities and relationships carefully to reflect this. Mitigating activities include compliance with Charity Commission and Companies House regulations, embedding ethical policies, carrying out risk assessments, and ensuring HR policies, such as safeguarding, whistleblowing and data protection and confidentiality, are in place. With our Press and Communications team in place, we are better able to respond to challenges to our reputation in a timely and efficient manner.
Failure to meet funding targets	Fundraising continues to be challenging and the charity must forecast effectively and be prepared for shortfalls. Mitigating activites include monitoring reserves on a monthly basis to ensure our minimum target is reached, reporting monthly cashflow to the finance sub-committee, building a project contingency fund to address shortfalls and cancelling any proposed work that remains unfunded. We must be prepared to reduce staffing levels if a significant shortfall is forecast. We will continue to diversify our income streams so that we are not over-reliant on trusts and foundations.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of School Food Matters for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

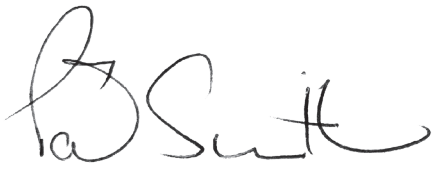
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed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

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information

Report of the Trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 18 January 2024 and signed on the Board's behalf by



Mr Paul Smith
Trustee



Independent Auditor's Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of School Food Matters (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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

As the financial statements for the last financial year were not audited, our audit opinion does not cover the results for that period.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Christopher Julian Brigstocke FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Collards Chartered Accountants
5-9 Eden Street
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey
KT1 1BQ

18 January 2024

Reference and administrative details

Company Registration Number	06657048 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration Number	1134094
Patrons	Baroness Rosie Boycott Princess Dora Loewenstein
Directors/Trustees	Max Beazley Jared Brading Alayna Francis Ossie Gray Mecca Ibrahim (appointed 19 October 2023) Nyasha Kambarami (resigned 19 October 2023) Rebecca O'Connell (Chair from 27 October 2023) Ben Reynolds (Chair to 27 October 2023) Freya Robinson (resigned 27 April 2023) Paul Smith
Chief Executive	Stephanie Slater
Registered Office	The Bridge 7b Parkshot London TW9 2RD
Independent Auditors	Collards Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors 5-9 Eden Street Kingston upon Thames Surrey KT1 1BQ

Bankers

Santander 2 Triton Square Regent's Place London NW1 3AN	Triodos Deanery Road Bristol BS1 5AS	Nationwide Building Society Kings Park Road Moulton Park Northampton NN3 6NW

Statement of financial activities

incorporating an income and expenditure account

For the year ended 31 August 2023

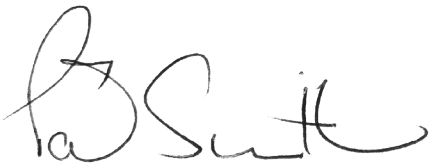
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	3	66,943	-	-	66,943	27,065
Other income		14,194	5,069	–	19,263	6,135
Trusts and Foundations		28,000	92,395	-	120,395	123,062
Charitable activities	5					
Project management and services		-	890,338	25,389	915,727	580,110
Membership		-	1,500	-	1,500	2,250
Grant-making		-	92,881	-	92,881	63,366
Investment income	4	1,152	-	-	1,152	54
Total		110,289	1,082,183	25,389	1,217,861	802,042
EXPENDITURE ON						
Staff costs	12	69,574	490,019	13,000	572,593	543,356
Cost of raising funds	6	20,209	-	-	20,209	19,420
Project management and services	7	-	501,845	12,389	514,234	285,169
Overheads and governance	8	-	86,524	-	86,524	83,042
		89,783	1,078,388	25,389	1,193,560	930,987
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE		20,506	3,795	-	24,301	(128,945)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		94,673	-	-	94,673	223,618
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		115,179	3,795	-	118,974	94,673

Balance sheet

At 31 August 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	13	6,853	-	-	6,853	9,407
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	14	-	111,843	-	111,843	87,736
Cash at bank		116,252	93,868		210,120	386,286
		116,252	205,711	-	321,963	474,022
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(7,926)	(201,916)	-	(209,842)	(388,756)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		108,326	3,795	-	112,121	85,266
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		115,179	3,795	-	118,974	94,673
NET ASSETS		115,179	3,795	-	118,974	94,673
FUNDS	17					
Unrestricted funds					115,179	94,673
Designated funds					3,795	-
Restricted funds					-	-
TOTAL FUNDS					118,974	94,673

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 18 January 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr Paul Smith
Trustee

Cash flow statement
For the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	**(177,318)**	(185,818)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		**(177,318)**	(185,818)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets			(4,413)
Interest received		**1,152**	54
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		**1,152**	(4,359)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		**(176,166)**	(190,177)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		**386,286**	576,463
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		**210,120**	386,286

Notes to the cash flow statement
For the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	**24,301**	(128,945)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**2,298**	2,705
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**256**	-
Interest received	**(1,152)**	(54)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	**(24,107)**	(65,701)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**(178,914)**	6,178
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	**(177,318)**	(185,817)

2. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1.9.22 £	Cash flow £	At 31.8.23 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	**386,286**	**(176,166)**	**210,120**
	386,286	**(176,166)**	**210,120**
Total	**386,286**	**(176,166)**	**210,120**

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Statutory information

School Food Matters is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found in the report of the Trustees. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

2. 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)', the 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.

School Food Matters meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Income
Income is recognised when:

- the charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met;
- it is probable that the income will be received; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met. Membership income is accounted for in the year that it is received. Income is stated after trade discounts, other sales taxes and net of VAT.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure:

- as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure;
- when 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 are depreciated by 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.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds allocated by the funder for particular 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
School Food Matters operates a defined contribution pension scheme administered by NEST. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations	66,943	-	66,943	27,065

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Deposit account interest	1,152	-	1,152	54

5. Income from charitable activities

	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Project Management & Services				
29 May 1961 Charitable Foundation	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Abel & Cole	1,500	-	1,500	6,636
Belazu Ingredient Company	28,205	-	28,205	25,969
Clearwater International	20,916	-	20,916	-
Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust	-	23,389	23,389	-
GLA Kitchen Social	-	2,000	2,000	1,600
Gosling Foundation	7,000	-	7,000	-
Honourable Company of Gloucestershire	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Impact on Urban Health	668,364	-	668,364	433,734
Schools/Local Councils	29,106	-	29,106	650
Waitrose	-	-	-	400
St Walter St John	1,000	-	1,000	-
Whole Kids Foundation	128,247	-	128,247	105,121
	890,338	25,389	915,727	580,110
Membership Income	1,500	-	1,500	2,250
Grant-making funds	92,881	-	92,881	63,366
	984,719	25,389	1,010,108	645,726

6. Raising funds

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	10,588	10,194
Rent, rates and water	4,861	4,861
Insurance	244	226
Telephone	359	411
Stationery & office costs	3,763	3,190
Travel	165	268
Depreciation	229	270
	20,209	19,420

7. Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs	Support costs (see note 8)	Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	572,593	-	572,593
Cost of raising funds	10,588	9,621	20,209
Project management and services	427,710	86,524	514,234
	1,010,891	96,145	1,107,036

8. Support costs

	Overheads	Governance costs	Total
	£	£	£
Cost of raising funds	9,621	-	9,621
Overheads and governance	80,524	6,000	86,524
	90,145	6,000	96,145

9. Auditors' remuneration

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	6,000	-

The financial statements for the previous year were not subject to an audit but instead had an independent examination for which fees payable were £2,400.

10. Net income/(expenditure)

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation–owned assets	2,297	2,705
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	256	-
Operating lease costs – rent	44,175	44,175

11. Key management personnel

There were no salaries or other benefits paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2023 nor for the year ended 31 August 2022. There were no expenses paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2023 nor for the year ended 31 August 2022.

The total employee benefits of key management personnel, including pension contributions, for the year to 31 August 2023 were £135,972 (£156,706 for the year to 31 August 2022).

Pay for key management personnel at School Food Matters has been benchmarked and reflects the market rate for comparable jobs in comparable organisations. Pay also reflects level of knowledge, skills and experience required, and the responsibilities and accountabilities associated with each role. Staff pay is reviewed annually and agreed with the Trustees.

12. Staff costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages	518,649	492,228
Social security	45,008	42,669
Pensions	19,524	18,653
	583,181	553,550

In addition to employing staff, the charity also benefits from the use of unpaid volunteers. During the year this amounted to the equivalent of 150 days work which if paid at the London Living Wage would have cost the charity £13,260 in wages.

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

	2023	2022
Admin & support staff	19	19
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	16.0	14.3

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

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 September 2022	16,873
Disposals	(608)
At 31 August 2023	16,265
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2022	7,466
Eliminated on disposal	(351)
Charge for year	2,297
At 31 August 2023	9,412
Net book value	
At 31 August 2023	6,853
At 31 August 2022	9,407

14. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	12,150	15,768
Accrued income	95,219	64,829
Other debtors	-	152
Prepayments	4,474	6,987
	111,843	87,736

Trade debtors relate to amounts due in respect of unrestricted fund programmes.

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	11,200	12,683
Trade creditors	4,312	7,341
Accruals and deferred income	194,330	368,732
	209,842	388,756

Accruals and deferred income includes £17,947 (£49,491 in 2022) in payments due to suppliers for costs incurred during the year. £176,383 is income received in 2022/23 for food education projects that have either spanned into the next financial year or where the payments received do not match the timing of the spend.

The movement on deferred income is as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Brought forward	319,242	355,615
Recognised this year	(300,342)	(309,583)
Income received this year being deferred	157,483	273,210
Carried forward	176,383	319,242

Within the above £20,800 (2022: £46,032) is expected to be deferred by over 12 months.

16. Leasing agreements

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	11,044	11,044

17. Movement in funds

	At 1.9.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.8.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	94,673	20,506	**115,179**
Designated – Foresters School Gardens	–	3,795	**3,795**
Total funds	94,673	24,301	**118,974**

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	**110,289**	**(89,783)**	**20,506**
Designated – Food education projects	**990,141**	**(990,141)**	**-**
Designated – Chelsea Garden relocation	**10,000**	**(10,000)**	**-**
Designated – Whole Kids Foundation Garden Grants	**70,042**	**(70,042)**	**-**
Designated – Foresters School Gardens	**12,000**	**(8,205)**	**3,795**
	1,192,472	**(1,168,171)**	**24,301**
Restricted funds			
Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust	**23,389**	**(23,389)**	**-**
GLA Kitchen Social	**2,000**	**(2,000)**	**-**
	25,389	**(25,389)**	
Total funds	**1,217,861**	**(1,193,560)**	**24,301**

17. Movement in funds – continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.8.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	223,618	(128,945)	94,673
Total funds	223,618	(128,945)	94,673

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	94,099	(223,044)	(128,945)
Designated - Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants	63,366	(63,366)	-
Designated – Food education projects	640,727	(640,727)	-
Membership	2,250	(2,250)	-
	800,442	(929,387)	(128,945)
Restricted funds			
GLA Kitchen Social	1,600	(1,600)	-
Total funds	802,042	(930,987)	(128,945)

The Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants Fund (a Designated Income Fund) is a fund from the Whole Kids Foundation which is available to schools to allow them to develop school gardens where pupils can learn about growing fruit and vegetables.

The Food Education Projects Fund (a Designated Income Fund) is a collection of several similar funds which relate to providing food education to schools and other bodies. These funds are provided by various organisations, trusts and other charitable organisations.

18. Related party disclosures

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



SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

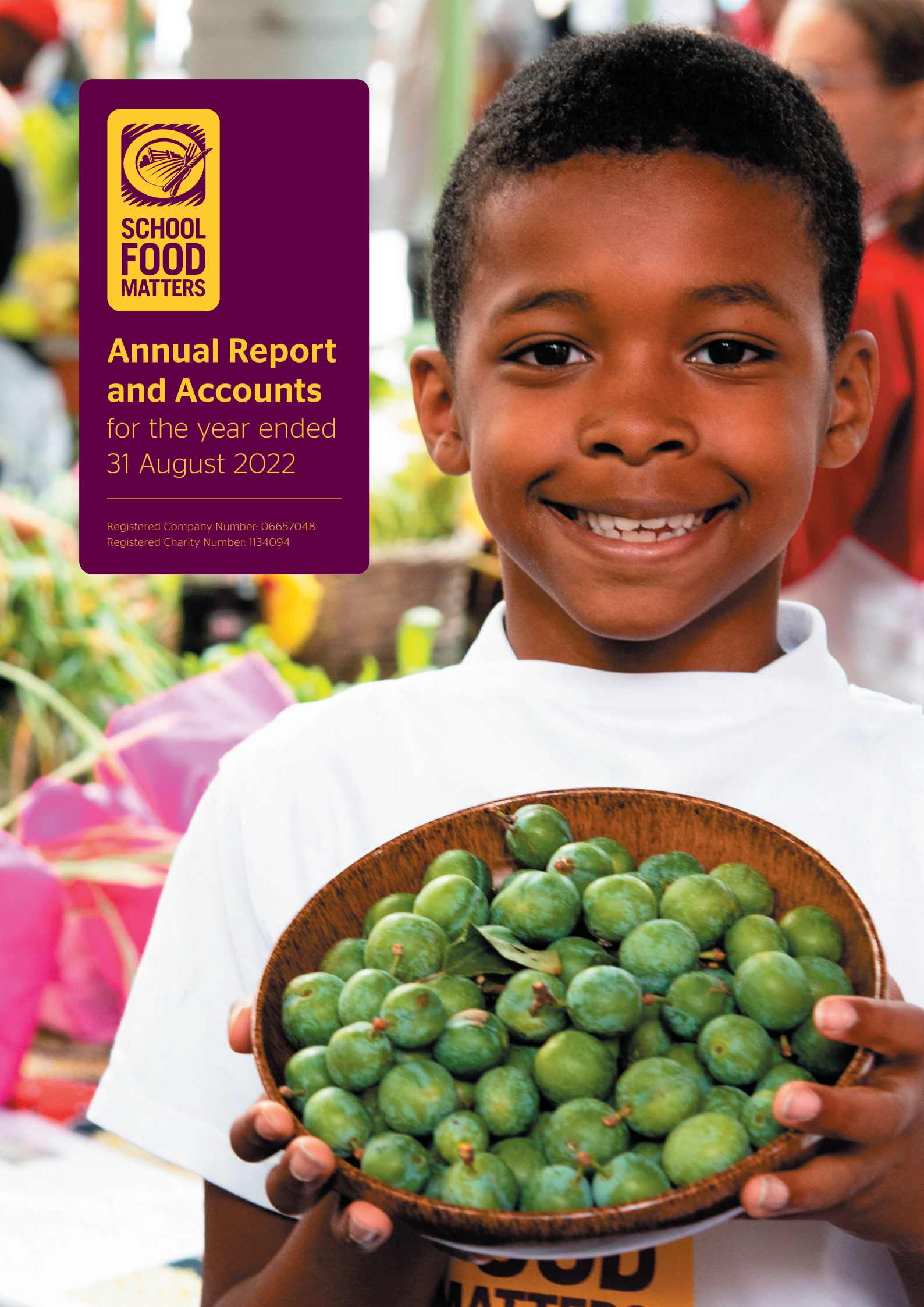
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SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1134094

Accounts



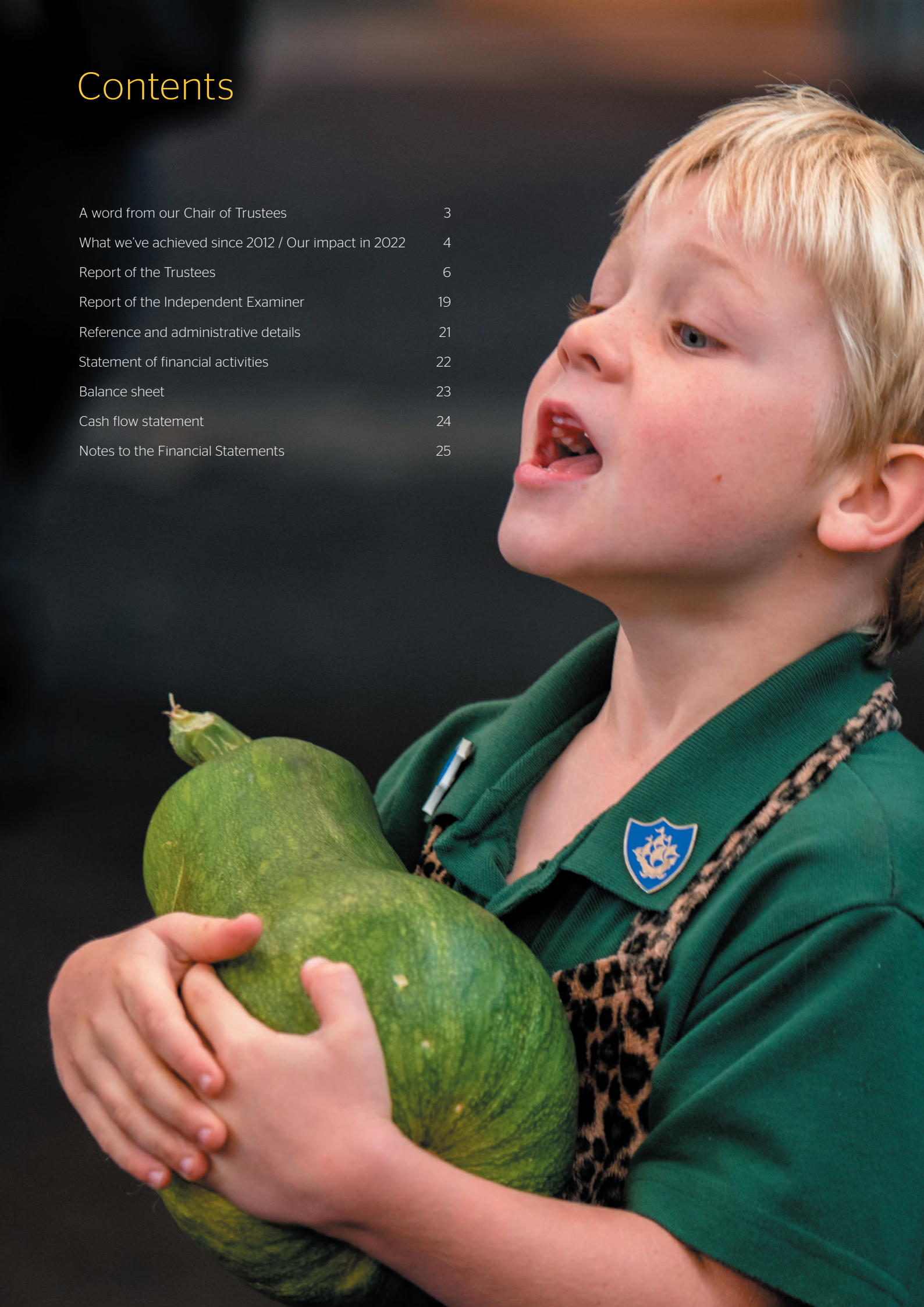
Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2022

Registered Company Number: 06657048
Registered Charity Number: 1134094

Contents

A word from our Chair of Trustees	3
What we've achieved since 2012 / Our impact in 2022	4
Report of the Trustees	6
Report of the Independent Examiner	19
Reference and administrative details	21
Statement of financial activities	22
Balance sheet	23
Cash flow statement	24
Notes to the Financial Statements	25



A word from our Chair of Trustees

June 2022 marked 15 years of School Food Matters and I'm proud to say that I've been involved with the charity for 12 of those years. To play a part in the transformation from grassroots campaign to influential national charity has been a privilege, and a pleasure to behold.

So how to celebrate this milestone? Our strategy day in April was an opportunity to get creative, share ideas and come up with a menu of events to make the most of this anniversary. It felt important to include the voices of children and our 15th birthday film captures their powerful testimony about why school food matters. And children took centre stage as we launched our limited-edition tea towels and tote bags featuring fruit and veg designed by our beneficiaries.

Birthday celebrations aside, this has been the year to dig deep into the systemic failures of the school food system. The School Food Review, led by School Food Matters, has moved into phase two. In the context of the cost-of-living crisis we must advocate for the millions of schoolchildren in England who are missing out on free school meals owing to restrictive eligibility criteria. But for the school food service to truly deliver we must also tackle procurement, quality and accountability, uptake and funding which hasn't kept pace with spiralling inflation. Alongside our partners at Impact on Urban Health, Bite Back 2030, Chefs in Schools and The Food Foundation, all eyes will be on the Department for Education and the implementation of the hard-won monitoring and accountability measures included in the government's Levelling Up white paper.

Our greatest campaign asset is the schools in which we work every day, and the stories shared by teachers, families and children. Our five-year Healthy Zones programme, which will work with 80 schools in Lambeth and Southwark, has now expanded into Westminster and Tower Hamlets, providing a rich source of learning about how different schools in different communities support children's health and provide good nutrition.

Our flagship food education programmes go from strength to strength and this year we welcomed our funders from Whole Kids Foundation in Austin Texas, who were delighted to join 100 children to harvest fresh veg at a farm in Surrey. The Foundation's CEO, Nona Evans, also donned a bee suit to join a class of 30 children from Hackney on a visit to an apiary in Holland Park. Our partnership with Whole Kids has grown this year with a new programme inviting community volunteers to create school gardens. The programme, piloted in Sheffield on a chilly day in April, will roll out to four new cities in 2023.

Sadly this was the year that saw the start of the war in Ukraine, prompting reflection on how we could respond to humanitarian crises. Together the team came up with our Welcome programme, using fun, hands-on gardening workshops to help schools warmly welcome and integrate refugee children into their school communities. So far, sessions have been delivered in Sheffield and London with more planned for 2023.

School Food Matters continues to grow, and we now have a talented team of 20. Our focus on wellbeing and team building is now embedded into the culture of the charity with volunteering opportunities, a weekly team run, a kayaking expedition on the Thames and fundraising challenges. Our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion working group is firmly established and staff training days were delivered this year, with more to follow.

Ben Reynolds
Chair of Trustees

What we've achieved since 2012*

211,000
children from 871 schools have participated in our food education projects

4,400
children have visited a farm

8,000+
children and adults have learned how to grow vegetables

6,000
children have learned to cook from scratch

388
children attended our holiday food and fun clubs

9,000+
children have learned about bees

45
schools have been supported by our Healthy Zones team



Our impact in 2022

1 in 2
students tasted a new flavour by taking part in our food education projects

60%
of students reported learning something new about healthy eating

88%
of teachers said working with School Food Matters had given them greater confidence to teach cooking and growing

85%
of teachers reported greater staff and volunteer involvement in gardening at school

95%
of teachers thought our programmes gave students a better understanding of where their food comes from, and greater respect for the natural world

2/3
of parents said the holiday food and fun clubs made a positive difference to their family's access to food over the holiday

Interim evaluation of our Healthy Zones programme captures early evidence of positive improvements to school food culture and students' ability to concentrate in class

*The figures reflect cumulative programme data since 2012. School Food Matters collects both qualitative and quantitative data from each and every programme in order to ensure that we are on track, making an impact and delivering our mission.



Report of the Trustees

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 August 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).

Objectives and activities

Our Mission

School Food Matters exists to teach children about food and to improve children's access to healthy, sustainable food during their time at school.

Objectives and Aims

The objectives of the charity are to advance the education, and promote the health, of schoolchildren and their families in particular but not exclusively by:

- developing and improving knowledge and understanding of food, food production, health and sustainable food production amongst local authorities, schools, pupils and their families, school caterers and others; and
- encouraging and monitoring good practice in the provision of, and access to, fresh and nutritionally healthy food in schools

Activities

School Food Matters provides fully funded food education programmes to schools. Our experience delivering these programmes informs and strengthens our campaigns, bringing the voices of children, parents and teachers to government policy. The charity is engaged in the following activities:

- We campaign on issues relating to school food, children's health and food education
- We raise funds from trusts and foundations to support our campaigning
- We devise, develop and deliver food education projects with partners
- We provide a membership programme for schools

Public Benefit

The Trustees are aware of Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011. They believe School Food Matters fulfils a fundamental public benefit by promoting the health, and advancing the education, of schoolchildren and their families.



About School Food Matters

Founded in 2007, School Food Matters was born out of a grassroots campaign that transformed school meals for 38 schools in the London borough of Richmond.

School Food Matters is the charity that knows schools. We raise funds so that we can offer fully funded food education programmes to schools. We use our extensive knowledge, gained from delivering these programmes, to advocate for better school meals and vital food education.

We work in partnership with charities that share our mission to inform and influence government policy at the same time as working with individual schools to help establish a good food culture.

There are three opportunities for School Food Matters to bring about change:

1. Food Education – 75% of schools are not using opportunities to influence children's eating habits
2. Food Policy – There is a lack of leadership from government on school food and children's health
3. Food Provision – Not all children are eating well in school

We will continue our mission to teach children about food and to improve children's access to healthy, sustainable food during their time at school. To achieve this, we will campaign on school food and children's health and, in exceptional circumstances, provide nutritious food to vulnerable children and their families. We will deliver food education programmes in schools. These programmes will develop children's understanding of food and help them to lead happy and healthy lives.



Future plans

This year staff and Trustees worked together to review our strategy for 2020-2025 to ensure we're on track and delivering our mission. Our framework of five priorities for success is still relevant and we are making excellent progress towards our goals.

1. Grow our profile to improve our charity's ability to influence government policy

- We will build a library of quantitative and qualitative data to measure the effect of our work in schools
- We will increase advocacy by making current and new supporters aware of our campaigns
- We will raise awareness by using social media, press coverage and personal communication to build awareness and use the evidence we collect to substantiate our stories

Progress this year

We have successfully collected our first set of impact data and established a new database with an easy-to-use interface that can store and present monitoring information for the whole organisation

Eight staff members have completed media training to help us manage an increase in media enquiries and develop additional spokespeople to represent the charity

This year we launched a vibrant, interactive website enabling us to deliver our Latest News and Blogs direct to our subscribers. Our social media following has increased by 39% on average across all platforms

2. Increase our impact by delivering more projects at more schools in and outside London

- We will focus on new regions, offering our programmes to 25 schools outside London to establish a network in five new regions
- We will secure the support of new partners to deliver new projects in the regions
- We will use the tried and tested programmes established in London schools to extend delivery beyond the capital

Progress this year

Our Young Marketeers programme has now been delivered in 24 schools in six regions across the country, with Gloucestershire and Liverpool now well-established. In 2023 we will pilot in Leeds and Birmingham

Two new funders have enabled us to expand beyond London – Nineveh Charitable Trust and Garfield Weston

Our Welcome programme, which offers gardening sessions to refugees, has run successfully in both London and Sheffield

"A big thank you to the School Food Matters team for all your brilliant work this year on Healthy Zones, the School Food Review, and across the world of school food at large. It's inspiring to see the impact you're having at many levels, from local school halls to inside the labyrinthian walls of the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organisation in Rome! Very much looking forward to more collaboration next year."

Louise Foreman
Impact on Urban Health

3. Strengthen our funding with a broader mix of long-term contributors

- We will secure a funding mix split across corporate partners, trusts and foundations, donations and fundraising events
- We will use our 15th birthday in 2022 as an opportunity for a large fundraising event, to raise money and attract new supporters
- We will look to new and existing funders to secure multi-year grants to give us greater income stability

Progress this year

We have secured a healthy mix of funding: 20% corporate partners, 74% trusts and foundations, 6% public donations and other sources

Our 15th birthday webpage was launched in June highlighting a series of events and opportunities to celebrate including special edition tea towels and tote bags designed by schoolchildren

This year we have been approached by, and developed successful bids for, two new foundations who learned of our work thanks to our increased media profile

4. Improve the charity's resilience by strengthening our team, developing skills and sharing responsibilities

- We will recruit a Communications Manager, an Evaluation Manager and an Office Manager to bring additional skills and expertise to our core team
- With a larger core team, we will be able to support operations outside London
- We will use technology to allow us to deliver projects more efficiently

Progress this year

Successful recruitment has brought our talented team to 20 with existing staff enjoying opportunities to progress to senior roles

This year the team has developed design skills by learning how to use Canva, and video and editing skills so that we can produce digital content in-house to promote our programmes

Our new Office Manager has established cyber security procedures and designed digital processes for more effective programme management and data collection

5. Build our network to enable us to campaign more effectively, reach more schools and deliver more projects

- We will actively build relationships with new organisations to work alongside School Food Matters on project delivery and on campaigns
- We will compile a database of target organisations to work with who are active in Food Education, Food Policy and Food Provision and consider when we are best placed to lead and when to support at a local and national level
- We will co-ordinate our network of public and private sector partners to deliver a more powerful voice and greater influence on Food Education, Food Policy and Food Provision

Progress this year

Co-ordinating the School Food Review with Impact on Urban Health, Bite Back 2030, Chefs in Schools and The Food Foundation resulted in our first policy win with school food monitoring and accountability measures included in the government's Levelling Up white paper

In April we piloted a new programe in Sheffield, working with a local horticulturist to establish a school garden with the help of community volunteers. Based on the success of this pilot, we'll be working with new organisations in Leeds, Birmingham and Gravesend

We continue to work with academics to shape and influence new research. This includes us chairing the University of York CONNECTS-Food Study's advisory group, working with the GENIUS Network, and advising the Institute for Social and Economic Research and the University of Birmingham's EPIC Study

Review of Activities

School Food Matters has built strong relationships with project partners and together we develop flagship programmes which continue to grow year on year. Our partnerships are key to the success of our charity and enable us to deliver quality food education programmes to our beneficiaries. We value the role our partners play and will continue to nurture these important relationships. We appreciate our partners' long-term commitment to the projects highlighted below.

Whole Foods Market and Whole Kids Foundation

We have established three programmes with Whole Kids Foundation. **Schools to Market** celebrated its tenth birthday this year. Since 2013, more than 54,000 children have participated in this programme during which they've grown, harvested, cooked and sold their own delicious chutneys at Whole Foods Market stores across London. Our **Honeybee Programme** has introduced more than 9,000 children to the wonderful world of bees either through a visit from a local beekeeper or on a school trip to an apiary. And this year we awarded over £55,000 to schools in six London boroughs through our **School Garden Grants** programme, bringing the total invested since the programme launched in 2016 to £435,000.

> *"I was scared to hold a bee at first, but I tried it and it was really fun. Bees are actually really friendly."*

Student on the Honeybee Programme

Borough Market and the AIM Foundation

This year we were delighted to welcome a new partner, The AIM Foundation, who join Borough Market to support our **Young Marketeers** programme. Now in its 11th year, the programme features three market days across the school year, one for each term. By selling their tasty soups or home-grown fruit and veg, our Young Marketeers raised £1,465 for The Felix Project across the three market days, providing 8,880 meals for vulnerable families.

> *"Our students have learned about farm-to-fork food preparation. Back in February, they had no idea that the tiny seeds they sowed would become tasty tomatoes and cucumbers on sale at the prestigious Borough Market."*

Teacher on the Young Marketeers Programme

Belazu Ingredient Company

Our **Fresh Enterprise** programme goes from strength to strength and 2022's winning sauce, Smoky Delight from Whitefield School, can be purchased on the Belazu website. Belazu continues to support our **Holiday Food and Fun** programme during the Easter and summer holidays, with 388 children invited to engage in fun activities, including gardening and cooking and enjoy a healthy, hot meal each day.

> *"This tastes so good, I think we're going to sell lots of it. I want to make it again at home."*

Student at a Fresh Enterprise Cooking Masterclass

Impact on Urban Health

In partnership with Impact on Urban Health, our five-year **Healthy Zones** programme will reach 80 primary and secondary schools in Lambeth and Southwark, to create sustained changes to school food environments so that healthy food is prioritised throughout the school day. Our programme team of nine will support schools to develop school food policies and to provide healthier breakfast and after school club menus. Based on the success of this model, Healthy Zones is now being piloted in Tower Hamlets and Westminster.

"It's been great fun and we have seen a lot of change in the children as a result of the project. They're more willing to try new foods and they're actually enjoying them too! As staff members, we've changed the way that we talk about food too – I've run a Taste Ed session for my SEN group and I'm always positive about what we are eating, even if I don't like it myself."

Teaching Assistant on Healthy Zones intervention at their Afterschool Club

Whilst Healthy Zones is making changes at a local level, Impact on Urban Health recognises that to tackle health inequalities, school food funding and policy needs to change. With Bite Back 2030, Chefs in Schools and The Food Foundation, School Food Matters is co-ordinating the **School Food Review**, bringing together representatives of catering staff, school leaders, local authorities, experts, campaigners, and, of course, schoolchildren. Our shared mission is to realise the full potential of the school food system through government reform so that no child misses out on good nutrition at school.

"The School Food Review group is the strongest combined voice of any collaboration I have witnessed or been involved with. The collective genius which spans all aspects of the school food spectrum means that no stone is left unturned, no answer left unanswered. Put simply, it works!"

Dr Nick Capstick OBE, Chair School Food Review Working Group

Abel & Cole

Our partners at Abel & Cole have continued to support our **Holiday Food and Fun** programme, with children from both St Mary's and Sacred Heart primary schools enjoying activities including cooking and gardening. Abel & Cole has also donated 5,000 pieces of fruit each week to Bacon's College, a secondary school in Southwark, so that young people have access to a healthy snack during the school day.

"Without summer school, some of our children would have been at home for the whole six weeks of the holiday. We have been able to get them out the house, provide them with a hot meal whilst doing something fun and supporting the families in our community."

Associate Headteacher on Holiday Food and Fun



Our experience delivering these programmes informs and strengthens our campaigns, bringing the voices of children, parents and teachers to government policy. To this end, our Chief Executive sits on the following boards and committees:

- Alexandra Rose Charity (Trustee)
- All Party Parliamentary Group on School Food
- Capital Growth and London Food Link (Chair)
- School Food Plan Alliance (co-Chair)
- Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming (vice-Chair)
- CONNECTS-Food Partnership Board, University of York (Chair)

Financial Support

School Food Matters is grateful for the support received from our funders and project partners over the course of this financial year:

- 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust
- Abel & Cole
- AIM Foundation
- Belazu Ingredient Company
- Betty Messenger Charitable Foundation
- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- Garfield Weston
- GLA Kitchen Social
- Impact on Urban Health
- Nineveh Trust
- Vegware
- Westminster Foundation
- Whole Kids Foundation

Financial review

For the year ended 31 August 2022, total incoming resources amounted to £802,042 compared to £1,524,813 last year. Income for year end August 2021 was inflated owing to Covid response grants from funders and public donations during lockdown. For the same reasons, expenditure for 2021/22 was £930,987, compared to £1,458,461 last year.

Any funds described as 'restricted income' are available only for the specific projects or purposes determined by the funders. In addition, the charity holds 'designated funds' which have been raised for a specific purpose. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out in the accounts that follow.

Reserves

As part of the 2021/22 year end process, School Food Matters' finance sub-committee reviewed the charity's Reserves Policy. It was confirmed that the policy was still considered appropriate and that School Food Matters would maintain free reserves:

- to provide a sustainable and appropriate level of working capital
- to allow for periods of unexpected drops in planned income
- to cope with sudden short-term increases in planned expenditure
- to provide cover for other risks, contingencies or unforeseen events which would have a low likelihood of occurring but would have a significant impact on School Food Matters

To this end, School Food Matters aims to accumulate reserves equal to at least three to six months' unrestricted expenditure. It is deemed that in this financial year there were adequate funds to ensure the charity was able to meet all current, known and some estimated possible future liabilities. Our unrestricted reserves currently stand at £94,673.

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

School Food Matters is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28 July 2008 and registered as a charity on 4 February 2010.

The company is governed under its Articles of Association. The Trustees have a responsibility to ensure that all aspects of the charity's activities are properly conducted and carried out in full compliance with its Articles of Association. The Trustees normally meet at least three times a year and attend an additional strategy day together with School Food Matters staff. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. No expenses were claimed by any Trustee during the year.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Trustees are appointed under the terms of the Articles of Association. Each new Trustee is given a copy of the Articles of Association, details of their responsibilities as a charity trustee, background on the charity's strategy and current projects and other information useful in pursuing their role. They will also have access to all SFM policies including insurance and the charity's business plan. Trustees are invited to visit our projects so that they can familiarise themselves with our work. The Trustees are recruited in consultation with the Chief Executive to ensure that the requisite skills are available to support the charity's activities.

Staff, Training and Fair Pay

School Food Matters has 20 core members of staff (14.3 FTE) and is governed by a board of nine Trustees. We continue to be able to recruit high quality volunteers to undertake a range of useful tasks in all areas of our work. School Food Matters is very grateful for the many benefits they bring. This year, School Food Matters have had over 47 days work delivered by a group of 30 talented volunteers.

In January 2018, School Food Matters became an accredited Living Wage Employer, committed to paying the London Living Wage, as calculated by the Living Wage Foundation, which reflects the cost of living.

Fundraising

A proportion of the charity's income is from grants from the trusts and foundations listed in this Annual Report. All funding bids are developed by School Food Matters staff. In this financial year we have allocated £19,420 to raising funds from trusts and foundations which covers staff time and overheads.

Role of Trustees

The Trustees provide governance and develop the policies of the charity, and accept ultimate legal authority for it. The Trustees formulate and regularly review the long- and short-term strategic aims of the charity as well as setting specific goals and priorities. The Trustees approve budgets and are responsible for the good stewardship of the charity's resources. They work in partnership with the Chief Executive with a view to furthering the charity's objectives. The Trustees, who are also the members of the Company, each have a limited liability of £1 in the event of the charity being wound up. Biographies of Trustees can be found on the School Food Matters website.

Role of Chief Executive

The Chief Executive provides leadership to employees and is responsible for the operational detail and implementation of the business plan and the management of the charity, including control of expenditure in line with budgets and delegations approved by the Trustees. The Chief Executive reports regularly to the Trustees on progress against agreed priorities and objectives and seeks opportunities to expand and promote the organisation.

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the major strategic, business and operational risks to which School Food Matters is exposed. These include governance and compliance issues, loss of key members of staff, changing Government policy, project or campaign failure and loss of income. The Trustees confirm that systems have been established to mitigate any such risks, that appropriate insurance cover has been obtained and that the assessment of risks is kept under review. The charity's risk register, a working document for which the senior management team and Trustees are responsible, is reviewed annually by Trustees and School Food Matters' management team. It considers the possible risks to the charity and prudent ways to avoid such risks arising, as well as mitigation should problems occur.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees consider the principal risks to School Food Matters to be:

Risk	Mitigation
Financial fraud	The pandemic has allowed fraudsters to flourish in the virtual world. Risks to School Food Matters are significant and include bankruptcy, damage to reputation and potential challenges to capacity, with time spent investigating breaches and ensuring robust financial controls are in place. To mitigate this threat we are regularly reviewing our finance policies and practices, undertaking training in cyber security and seeking expert advice from our accountant, with scrutiny by our finance sub-committee.
Loss of senior management team	School Food Matters has a senior management team of four. Losing one or more of the team members risks interruption to financial reporting, fundraising, advocacy and campaigning activities. Should the charity lose its Chief Executive, there would be significant recruitment costs, and trustees would be engaged in the recruitment process. To mitigate these risks, the senior management team meets monthly to share information. All management documents are accessible to the management team, our succession plan is regularly reviewed and updated by Trustees and the wider staff team has received media training to develop a pool of well-informed advocates to comment on our campaigns.
Damage to reputation	We are proud of our reputation and review our activities and relationships carefully to reflect this. Mitigating activities include compliance with Charity Commission and Companies House regulations, embedding ethical policies, carrying out risk assessments, and ensuring HR policies, such as safeguarding, whistleblowing and data protection and confidentiality, are in place. With our Press and Communications team in place, we are better able to respond to challenges to our reputation in a timely and efficient manner.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

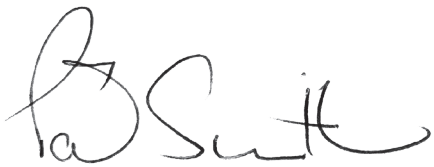
The Trustees (who are also the directors of School Food Matters for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity 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 charitable company will continue in business

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

Report of the Trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 19 January 2023 and signed on the board's behalf by



Mr Paul Smith
Trustee



Report of the Independent Examiner

I report to the charity's Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 August 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.

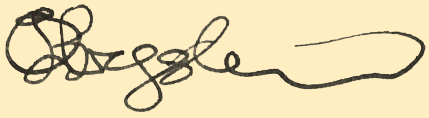
Independent examiner's statement

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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 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 Christopher Julian Brigstocke FCA
Institute of Chartered Accountants
in England and Wales
Collards Chartered Accountants
5-9 Eden Street
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey KT1 1BQ

19 January 2023

Reference and administrative details

Company Registration Number	06657048
Charity Registration Number	1134094
Patrons	Baroness Rosie Boycott Princess Dora Loewenstein
Directors/Trustees	Max Beazley Jared Brading Alayna Francis Ossie Gray Nyasha Kambarami Mike Morris (retired 20 October 2021) Rebecca O'Connell Elizabeth Owens (retired 19 January 2022) Ben Reynolds (Chair) Freya Robinson (appointed 24 February 2022) Paul Smith
Chief Executive	Stephanie Slater
Registered Office	The Bridge 7b Parkshot London TW9 2RD
Independent Examiners	Collards Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors 5-9 Eden Street Kingston upon Thames Surrey KT1 1BQ
Bankers	Santander 2 Triton Square Regent's Place London NW1 3AN Triodos Deanery Road Bristol BS1 5AS

Statement of financial activities

incorporating an income and expenditure account

For the year ended 31 August 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	3	27,065	-	-	27,065	197,892
Other income		6,135	-	-	6,135	4,124
Trusts and Foundations		60,845	62,217	-	123,062	118,268
Charitable activities	5					
Project management and services		-	578,510	1,600	580,110	1,155,729
Membership			2,250	-	2,250	2,379
Grant-making		-	63,366	-	63,366	46,229
Investment income	4	54	-	-	54	192
Total		94,099	706,343	1,600	802,042	1,524,813
EXPENDITURE ON						
Staff costs	12	203,624	339,732	-	543,356	412,894
Cost of raising funds	6	19,420		-	19,420	16,102
Project management and services	7	-	283,569	1,600	285,169	957,641
Overheads and governance	8	-	83,042	-	83,042	71,824
		223,044	706,343	1,600	930,987	1,458,461
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE		(128,945)	-	-	(128,945)	66,352
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		223,618	-	-	223,618	157,266
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		94,673	-	-	94,673	223,618

Balance sheet

At 31 August 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	13	9,407	-	-	9,407	7,697
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	14	-	87,736	-	87,736	22,037
Cash at bank		102,389	283,898	-	386,287	576,463
		102,389	371,634	-	474,023	598,500
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(17,123)	(371,634)	-	(388,757)	(382,579)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		85,266	-	-	85,266	215,921
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		94,673	-	-	94,673	223,618
NET ASSETS		94,673	-	-	94,673	223,618
FUNDS	17					
Unrestricted funds					94,673	223,618
Designated funds					-	-
Restricted funds					-	-
TOTAL FUNDS					94,673	223,618

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

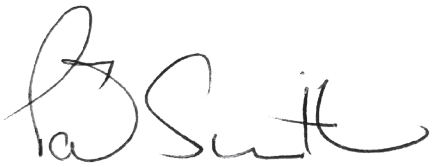
The members have not deposited notice, pursuant to Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requiring an audit of these financial statements.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- 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.

The financial statements were approved by the board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19 January 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr Paul Smith
Trustee



Cash flow statement
For the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(185,817)	153,442
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		(185,817)	153,442
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(4,413)	(4,078)
Interest received		54	192
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		(4,359)	(3,886)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(190,176)	149,556
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		576,463	426,907
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		386,287	576,463

Notes to the cash flow statement
For the year ended 31 August 2022

1. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(128,945)	66,352
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	2,705	2,566
Interest received	(54)	(192)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	(65,701)	85,578
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	6,178	(862)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	(185,817)	153,442

2. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1.9.21 £	Cash flow £	At 31.8.22 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	576,463	(190,176)	386,287
	576,463	(190,176)	386,287
Total	576,463	(190,176)	386,287

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2022

1. Statutory information

School Food Matters is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found in the Report of the Trustees. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

2. 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)', the 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.

School Food Matters meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Income
Income is recognised when:

- the charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met;
- it is probable that the income will be received; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

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

Membership income is accounted for in the year that it is received.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure:

- as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure;
- when 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 are depreciated by 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.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds allocated by the funder for particular 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
School Food Matters operates a defined contribution pension scheme administered by NEST. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted & Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations	27,065	-	27,065	197,892

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted & Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Deposit account interest	54	-	54	192

5. Income from charitable activities

	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Project Management & Services				
29 May 1961 Charitable Foundation	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Abel & Cole	6,636	-	6,636	7,913
Belazu Ingredient Company	25,969	-	25,969	10,572
Camden Borough Council	-	-	-	319
Chefs in Schools	-	-	-	96
Crowdfunder	-	-	-	3,159
GLA Kitchen Social	-	1,600	1,600	2,400
Hugh Fraser Foundation	-	-	-	3,000
Impact on Urban Health	433,734	-	433,734	970,337
NatWest Skills & Opportunities Fund	-	-	-	13,952
Schools/Local Councils	1,650	-	1,650	-
Sustain: Food Power for UNICEF UK	-	-	-	35,000
The Old Enfield Charitable Trust	-	-	-	460
Waitrose	400	-	400	-
Whole Kids Foundation	105,121	-	105,121	103,521
	578,510	1,600	580,110	1,155,729
Membership Income	2,250	-	2,250	2,379
Grant-making funds	63,366	-	63,366	46,229
	644,126	1,600	645,726	1,204,337

6. Raising funds

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs	10,194	9,958
Rent, rates and water	4,417	4,453
Insurance	226	160
Telephone	411	365
Stationery & Office Costs	3,190	132
Travel	268	177
Governance	444	600
Depreciation	270	257
	19,420	16,102

7. Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs	Support costs (see note 8)	Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	543,356	-	543,356
Cost of raising funds	10,194	9,226	19,420
Project management and services	285,169	83,042	368,211
	838,719	92,268	930,987

8. Support costs

	Overheads	Governance costs	Total
	£	£	£
Cost of raising funds	8,782	444	9,226
Overheads and governance	79,046	3,996	83,042
	87,828	4,440	92,268

9. Auditors' remuneration

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	-	6,000

10. Net income/(expenditure)

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

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation – owned assets	2,704	2,566

11. Key management personnel

There were no salaries or other benefits paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2022 nor for the year ended 31 August 2021. There were no expenses paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2022 nor for the year ended 31 August 2021.

The total employee benefits of key management personnel, including pension contributions, for the year to 31 August 2022 were £173,196 (£117,546 for the year to 31 August 2021).

Pay for key management personnel at School Food Matters has been benchmarked and reflects the market rate for comparable jobs in comparable organisations. Pay also reflects level of knowledge, skills and experience required, and the responsibilities and accountabilities associated with each role. Staff pay is reviewed annually and agreed with the Trustees.

12. Staff costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages	492,228	370,001
Social security	42,669	29,413
Pensions	18,653	13,480
	553,550	412,894

In addition to employing staff, the charity also benefits from the use of unpaid volunteers. During the year this amounted to the equivalent of 28 days work which if paid at the London Living Wage would have cost the charity £2,430 in wages.

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

	2022	2021
Admin & support staff	19	14
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	14.3	10.2

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

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 September 2021	12,457
Additions	4,415
At 31 August 2022	16,872
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2021	4,761
Charge for year	2,704
At 31 August 2022	7,465
Net book value	
At 31 August 2022	9,407
At 31 August 2021	7,697

14. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	15,768	12,560
Accrued income	64,829	7,913
Other debtors	152	155
Prepayments	6,987	1,409
	87,736	22,037

Trade debtors relate to amounts due in respect of unrestricted fund programmes.

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	12,683	10,069
Trade creditors	7,341	-
Accruals and deferred income	368,733	372,510
	388,757	382,579

Accruals and deferred income includes £49,490 in payments due to suppliers for costs incurred during the year. £319,242 is income received in 2021/22 for food education projects that have either spanned into the next financial year or where the payments received do not match the timing of the spend.

16. Leasing agreements

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Within one year	11,044	11,044

17. Movement in funds

	At 1.9.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.8.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	223,618	(128,945)	94,673
Total funds	223,618	(128,945)	94,673

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	94,099	(223,044)	(128,945)
Designated - Food education projects	640,727	(640,727)	-
Designated - Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants	63,366	(63,366)	-
Designated - Membership	2,250	(2,250)	-
	800,442	(929,387)	(128,945)
Restricted funds			
GLA Kitchen Social	1,600	(1,600)	-
	1,600	(1,600)	-
Total funds	802,042	(930,987)	(128,945)

17. Movement in funds – continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.20	Net movement in funds	At 31.8.21
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	146,915	76,703	223,618
Designated – Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants	10,351	(10,351)	–
	157,266	66,352	223,618
Total funds	157,266	66,352	223,618

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	845,201	(768,498)	76,703
Designated – Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants	46,229	(56,580)	(10,351)
Betty Messenger Charitable Foundation	2,000	(2,000)	–
	893,430	(827,078)	66,352
Restricted funds			
Impact on Urban Health	593,983	(593,983)	–
GLA Kitchen Social	2,400	(2,400)	–
Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming	35,000	(35,000)	–
	631,383	(631,383)	
Total funds	1,524,813	(1,458,461)	66,352

18. Related party disclosures

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

19. Independent examiner's fees

The fees paid to the independent examiner during the period in respect of their independent examination provided by them are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent examination	2,400	–



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SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1134094

Accounts



SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended
31 August 2021

Registered Company Number: 06657048 • Registered Charity Number: 1134094

Contents

A word from our Chair of Trustees	3
Our impact	4
Report of the Trustees	6
Independent Auditor's report	19
Reference and administrative details	22
Statement of financial activities	23
Balance sheet	24
Cash flow statement	25
Notes to the Financial Statements	26



A word from our Chair of Trustees

Whilst being a trustee for School Food Matters for many years, I am honoured to have taken up the role of Chair. And what a year to have taken the role. If last year's activities were focussed on handling the arrival of Covid, this year has seen the charity balance the emergency response to the pandemic with re-establishing its programmes for schools.

We've delivered a dazzling array of activities and services this year – from food education sessions, delivering our millionth breakfast and establishing Healthy Zones in Lambeth and Southwark schools to taking our campaigns to national press and government policy-makers.

Covid has revealed a series of significant problems with existing school food policy, not just the poor quality of some meals but also access, with our Breakfast Boxes programme revealing that one in four of the families we have supported through the pandemic are not eligible for free school meals. It's time for reform.

With our partners at Impact on Urban Health, Food Foundation and Bite Back 2030 we've been calling on Government to undertake a comprehensive review of school food policy in England so that no child misses out on nutritious food at school. The publication of the National Food Strategy provides a valuable launchpad for this important work that hopefully will mean Government listens a little harder.

Meanwhile our work continues to make school food healthy, sustainable and, above all, accessible in a year when too many children have missed out on good nutrition. Delivery of our Healthy Zones programme with Impact on Urban Health means that the team at School Food Matters is in schools every day talking with children, parents, caterers and senior leaders, making us uniquely well-informed to take these voices to Government.

This work has run alongside delivery of our flagship food education programmes, some of which have been specially adapted for the virtual classroom. Once lockdown ended, schools were delighted to accept our invitations to release children from their classroom bubbles. Apart from the ever-popular farm visits, we were pleased to add a visit to Holland Park Ecology Centre to our food education calendar, with more than 500 children donning bee suits for a hands-on session on beekeeping.

This year School Food Matters took its Young Marketeers programme on the road. It was high time that more children benefitted from our award-winning food education programmes and happily summer 2021 saw market stalls, piled high with school-grown veg, popping up in Gloucestershire, the North East, Dorset and the Midlands. Back in London, we celebrated the 10th Anniversary of our Young Marketeers programme at Borough Market, the site of the first sale in 2012.

This is the year that School Food Matters grew to a talented team of 17. With the Healthy Zones crew firmly settled in, we've been able to focus on the first priority of our strategy for 2020-2025: to grow our profile to improve our ability to influence government policy and become the destination for media as the voice for food in schools. We can now amplify our campaign calls and spread the word about our programmes, thanks to our newly established Press and Communications Team. This has already paid dividends with extensive TV and newspaper coverage of both our Christmas Breakfast Boxes programme and the delivery of our millionth breakfast in April.

School Food Matters is only as good as its people so we're prioritising staff wellbeing with a series of initiatives ranging from Wednesday Wellbeing Walks and Monday Morning Meeting stretch sessions to establishing a new Wellbeing Day, which is an additional day's leave for all staff available without advance notice. We've also come together to talk about Diversity, Equality and Inclusion, establishing a working group as a safe place to discuss issues respectfully, freely and without judgement. The group has produced an Action Plan, a living document to reflect our commitment to making School Food Matters a place where all can feel welcome and have equal opportunities.

Ben Reynolds
Chair of Trustees

Our impact

3,566
children visited a farm

7,402
children and adults have learned how to grow veg from seed

44,131
children have participated in our food education projects

£33,820
raised by our children from selling fruit, veg and home-made chutneys



The figures reflect cumulative programme data since 2012. School Food Matters collects both qualitative and quantitative data from each and every programme in order to ensure that we are on track, making an impact and delivering our mission.

3,896
children have learned how to cook from scratch

315
children attended a holiday food and fun club

2,960
children were visited by a London beekeeper

1,110,725
healthy breakfasts were provided to vulnerable children and their families during school closures and holidays





Report of the Trustees

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 August 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

Our mission

School Food Matters exists to teach children about food and to improve children's access to healthy, sustainable food during their time at school.

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the charity are to advance the education, and promote the health, of school children and their families in particular but not exclusively by:

- developing and improving knowledge and understanding of food, food production, health and sustainable food production amongst local authorities, schools, pupils and their families, school caterers and others; and
- encouraging and monitoring good practice in the provision of and access to fresh and nutritionally healthy food in schools.

Activities

School Food Matters provides fully-funded food education programmes to schools. Our experience delivering these programmes informs and strengthens our campaigns, bringing the voices of children, parents and teachers to government policy. The charity is engaged in the following activities:

- We campaign on issues relating to school food, children's health and food education
- We raise funds from trusts and foundations to support our campaigning
- We devise, develop and deliver food education projects with partners
- We provide a membership programme for schools

Public benefit

The Trustees are aware of Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011. They believe School Food Matters fulfils a fundamental public benefit by promoting the health, and advancing the education, of school children and their families.

About School Food Matters

Founded in 2007, School Food Matters was born out of a grassroots campaign that transformed school meals for 38 schools in the London Borough of Richmond.

School Food Matters is the charity that knows schools. We raise funds so that we can offer free food education programmes to schools. We use our extensive knowledge, gained from delivering these programmes, to advocate for better school meals and vital food education.

We work in partnership with charities that share our mission to inform and influence government policy at the same time as working with individual schools to help establish a good food culture.

There are three opportunities for School Food Matters to bring about change:

1. Food Education – 75% of schools are not using opportunities to influence children's eating habits
2. Food Policy – there is a lack of leadership from government on school food and children's health
3. Food Provision – children are developing unhealthy food habits in and out of school

We will continue on our mission to teach children about food and to improve children's access to healthy, sustainable food during their time at school. To achieve this, we will campaign on school food and children's health and, in exceptional circumstances, provide nutritious food to vulnerable children and their families. We will deliver food education programmes in schools. These programmes will develop children's understanding of food and help them to lead happy and healthy lives.




SPIDER-MAN

Future plans

This year staff and Trustees worked together to review our strategy for 2020-2025 to ensure we're on track and delivering our mission. Our framework of five priorities for success are still relevant and we are making excellent progress toward our goals.

1. Grow our profile to improve our charity's ability to influence government policy

- We will build a library of quantitative and qualitative data to measure the effect of our work in schools
- We will increase advocacy by making current and new supporters aware of our campaigns
- We will raise awareness by using social media, press coverage and personal communication to build awareness and use the evidence we collect to substantiate our stories

Progress so far

With our Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Manager in place, we've developed processes for data collection that are effective and engaging for children

Our newly established Press and Communications Team is attracting press and raising our profile, which in turn is generating donations

Our social media following has increased by 24% in this financial year, with a massive 161% increase in Instagram followers

2. Increase our impact by delivering more projects at more schools in and outside London

- We will focus on new regions, offering our programmes to 25 schools outside London to establish a network in five new regions
- We will secure the support of new partners to deliver new projects in the regions
- We will use the tried-and-tested programmes established in London schools to extend delivery beyond the capital

Progress so far

Our Young Marketeers programme has now piloted in 20 schools in five new regions: Glasgow, North East, Midlands, Gloucestershire and Dorset

Expansion outside London has been funded by Ocado: You Give We Give

We are fundraising to continue and expand the programme, adding Liverpool to the list in 2022

"We've seen such brilliant collaboration with School Food Matters this year, including winning Charity Partnership of the Year at the Third Sector Awards for work on our Covid response programme, Breakfast Boxes. We've seen joint working happening at both a local and national level: keeping a spotlight on the importance of nutritious school food and working together to bring about structural changes. Thank you so much for consistently delivering impactful work on the ground, throughout what has been a really challenging year."

Louise Foreman
Impact on Urban Health

3. Strengthen our funding with a broader mix of long-term contributors

- We will secure a funding mix split across corporate partners, trusts and foundations, donations and fund-raising events
- We will use our 15th birthday in 2022 as an opportunity for a large fundraising event, to raise money and attract new supporters
- We will look to new and existing funders to secure multi-year grants to give us greater income stability

Progress so far

This year we saw a healthy mix of funding: 14% corporate partners, 61% trusts and foundations, 24% public donations and 1% from fundraising events

With staff and Trustees we've produced a longlist of activities to celebrate our 15th birthday in 2022

This year we've secured multi-year grants from two trusts and foundations

4. Improve the charity's resilience by strengthening our team, developing skills and sharing responsibilities

- We will recruit a Communications Manager, an Evaluation Manager and an Office Manager to bring additional skills and expertise to our core team
- With a larger core team, we will be able to support operations outside London
- We will use technology to allow us to deliver projects more efficiently

Progress so far

Successful recruitment has brought our talented team to 17 with three new members of staff due to start in September 2021

With a strong core team in place, we're now able to support our regional Project Officers in five cities outside London

Once in post, our new Office Manager will update and improve our cyber security procedures and develop our database for more effective programme management

5. Build our network to enable us to campaign more effectively, reach more schools and deliver more projects

- We will actively build relationships with new organisations to work alongside School Food Matters on project delivery and on campaigns
- We will compile a database of target organisations to work with who are active in Food Education, Food Policy and Food Provision and consider when we are best placed to lead and when to support at a local and national level
- We will co-ordinate our network of public and private sector partners to deliver a more powerful voice and greater influence on Food Education, Food Policy and Food Provision

Progress so far

Launched in April 2021, the campaign for a review of school food in England brings together Food Foundation, Bite Back 2030 and School Food Matters as co-ordinating group, with 25 organisations joining the working group

Whilst leading the school food review work, we recognise that our new programmes in the regions are best led by local leads. This year we have joined up with Food and Drink North East and Local Food Links in Dorset

Our ever-expanding network across the UK, and now abroad through the School Meals Coalition, brings our database to more than 8,000 warm contacts, with nearly 6,000 subscribing to our newsletters who can be mobilised to support our campaigns and programmes

Review of Activities

School Food Matters has built strong relationships with project partners and together we develop flagship programmes which continue to grow year on year. Our partnerships are key to the success of our charity and enable us to deliver quality food education programmes to our beneficiaries. We value the role our partners play and will continue to nurture these important relationships. We appreciate our partners' long-term commitment to the projects highlighted below.

Whole Foods Market and Whole Kids Foundation

Now into its ninth year, **Schools to Market** has taken thousands of children on the journey from seed to supermarket, giving students the chance to grow, harvest, cook and sell their own produce. This year the programme has been a fusion of virtual and face-to-face elements, all delivered in a compact timeframe, owing to the ever-changing face of Covid restrictions. It was lovely to see 16 schools back out on the farm and some eager faces selling their produce outside three Whole Foods stores on Market Day. Our **Honeybee Programme** was back bigger and better this year, with more than 2,960 students receiving a visit from a beekeeper. This year we have introduced a visit to the Holland Park Ecology Centre and apiary which was well-received by teachers, delighted to be able to take children out of the classroom. In May, we awarded over £70,000 to schools in seven London boroughs through our **School Garden Grants** programme. Many of the schools reported that their students had suffered significantly during Covid, so these new growing spaces will be a solace and a safe space for them to reconnect with nature in the months to come.

> *"The bee trip was amazing. I was so impressed with all the adult facilitators. They were all so welcoming, calm, and encouraging with our SEND group. The children had a wonderful memorable time."*
>
> **Assistant Head Teacher**
> Charles Dickens Primary School

Borough Market and the 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust

Since 2012, our **Young Marketeers** programme has been inviting primary school children to grow vegetables from seed to sell at Borough Market to raise money for FareShare. This year, after a year of school-based markets and virtual sessions, we were delighted to be back at Borough Market in October. Growing conditions were challenging this year but the schools managed to put on a wonderful display of produce, resulting in total sales of £1,132 raised for our new charity partner, The Felix Project, providing 6,792 meals to vulnerable families.

> *"I was amazed by how naturally our children took to being marketeers. It was such a pleasure to see."*
>
> **Teacher**
> Sudbourne Primary School

Belazu Ingredient Company

Our **Fresh Enterprise** programme is about to embark on its fifth year. We have a full programme of eight schools keen to get going in January. Last year's winning sauce, Lemon Sweetness by Northolt High, has been put into production and the first jars have just been delivered. Belazu also kindly supported our **Holiday Food and Fun** programme during the summer holidays, with 71 children invited to engage in fun activities, including gardening and cooking, and to enjoy a healthy hot meal each day.

"The club was a great success and a joy to be a part of. The work that your organisation does really has such as tremendous impact on children's lives."

DHT for Inclusion
Willow Tree School

Impact on Urban Health

In partnership with Impact on Urban Health, our **Breakfast Boxes** programme continued to support families in Southwark and Lambeth during school closures. The influx of public donations meant that we were able to deliver breakfasts throughout the school holidays. Since the start of the programme, more than 1.1 million healthy breakfasts have been provided to vulnerable children and their families.

The relationships built with schools during the Breakfast Boxes programme have enabled us to hit the ground running with our **Healthy Zones** programme. We've worked with ten schools to improve the food being served at their breakfast and after-school clubs, with students tasting a variety of healthy alternatives to guide the new menu choices. Students are also leading the way in six schools to introduce school food policies, which involves gathering feedback from their peers and delivering assemblies about the importance of putting health first in their school.

"Thank you for this incredible initiative – the [Breakfast Boxes] really are making the difference for so many of our families!"

Teacher
Compass School

"Thanks so much for all this – [Healthy Zones] is such a great project to be part of!"

Assistant Head Teacher
Allen Edwards Primary School

Abel & Cole

Our partnership with Abel & Cole continues to develop and this year they supported a Holiday Food and Fun programme at St Mary's RC Primary School in Battersea. Children from both St Mary's and Sacred Heart Primary Schools enjoyed activities including cooking and gardening. A hot lunch was provided and Abel & Cole donated fresh fruit for the children and their families to take home.

"I cannot put into words how grateful we are to have had the opportunity to be invited for a week of endless fun and positivity! The children have had a fab time and been spoilt rotten with second helpings at lunchtimes."

Parent
St Mary's RC Primary School



Our experience delivering these programmes informs and strengthens our campaigns, bringing the voices of children, parents and teachers to government policy. To this end, our Chief Executive sits on the following boards and committees:

- Alexandra Rose Charity (Trustee)
- All-Party Parliamentary Group on School Food
- Capital Growth and London Food Link (Chair)
- Department for Education's advisory group on school food standards
- GLA's London Food Board
- School Food Plan Alliance (Co-Chair)
- Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming (Vice-Chair)

Financial Support

School Food Matters is grateful for the support received from our funders and project partners over the course of this financial year:

- 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust
- Abel & Cole
- Belazu Ingredient Company
- Betty Messenger Charitable Foundation
- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- Garfield Weston
- GLA Kitchen Social
- Hugh Fraser Foundation
- Impact on Urban Health
- NatWest Skills and Opportunities Fund
- Ocado: You Give We Give
- Sustain: Food Power for UNICEF UK
- Vegware
- Whole Kids Foundation

This year we have also received generous donations from citizens across the UK and beyond in response to our high-profile Breakfast Boxes programme.

Financial review

For the year ended 31 August 2021, total incoming resources amounted to £1,524,813 compared to £1,138,505 last year. The expenditure for 2020/21 was £1,458,461, compared to £1,090,656 last year. This year, as a response to Covid, School Food Matters received restricted income of £593,983 from Impact on Urban Health and £35,000 from Sustain: Food Power for UNICEF UK, to provide breakfast and lunch hampers to vulnerable children in Southwark and Lambeth. These were extraordinary grants owing to exceptional circumstances and all proceeds went towards the food and transport costs.

Any funds described as 'restricted income' are available only for the specific projects or purposes determined by the funders. In addition, the charity holds 'designated funds' which have been raised for a specific purpose. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out in the accounts below.

Reserves

As part of the 2020/21 year-end process, School Food Matters' finance sub-committee reviewed the charity's Reserves Policy. It was confirmed that the policy was still considered appropriate and that School Food Matters would maintain free reserves:

- to provide a sustainable and appropriate level of working capital;
- to allow for periods of unexpected drops in planned income;
- to cope with sudden short-term increases in planned expenditure;
- to provide cover for other risks, contingencies or unforeseen events which would have a low likelihood of occurring but would have a significant impact on School Food Matters.

To this end, School Food Matters aims to accumulate reserves equal to at least three to six months' unrestricted expenditure. It is deemed that in this financial year there were adequate funds to ensure the charity was able to meet all current, known and some estimated possible future liabilities. Our unrestricted reserves currently stand at £223,618. A portion of these reserves are due to be spent in 2021/22 as we have recruited a Food Teacher to start in September 2021 and have allocated funds to running our Know Your Onions project in secondary schools.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

School Food Matters is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28 July 2008 and registered as a charity on 4 February 2010.

The company is governed under its Articles of Association. The Trustees have a responsibility to ensure that all aspects of the charity's activities are properly conducted and carried out in full compliance with its Articles of Association. The Trustees normally meet at least three times a year and attend an additional strategy day together with School Food Matters staff. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. No expenses were claimed by any Trustee during the year.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Trustees are appointed under the terms of the Articles of Association. Each new Trustee is given a copy of the Articles of Association, details of their responsibilities as a charity trustee, background on the charity's strategy and current projects and other information useful in pursuing their role. They will also have access to all SFM policies including insurance and the charity's business plan. Trustees are invited to visit our projects so that they can familiarise themselves with our work. The Trustees are recruited in consultation with the Chief Executive to ensure that the requisite skills are available to support the charity's activities.

Staff, training and fair pay

School Food Matters has 17 core members of staff (10.2 FTE) and is governed by a board of nine Trustees. We continue to be able to recruit high-quality volunteers to undertake a range of useful tasks in all areas of our work. School Food Matters is very grateful for the many benefits they bring. This year, School Food Matters have had over 28 days work delivered by a group of 25 talented volunteers in the four months between April and August, as this was when we were able to recommence our work in schools following the national lockdowns.

In January 2018, School Food Matters became an accredited Living Wage Employer, committed to paying the London Living Wage, as calculated by the Living Wage Foundation, which reflects the cost of living.

Fundraising

A proportion of the charity's income is from grants from the trusts and foundations listed in this Annual Report. All funding bids are developed by School Food Matters staff. In this financial year we have allocated £16,102 to cover staff time and overheads for the purpose of raising funds from trusts and foundations.

Role of Trustees

The Trustees provide governance and develop the policies of the charity, and accept ultimate legal authority for it. The Trustees formulate and regularly review the long- and short-term strategic aims of the charity as well as setting specific goals and priorities. The Trustees approve budgets and are responsible for the good stewardship of the charity's resources. They work in partnership with the Chief Executive with a view to furthering the charity's objectives. The Trustees, who are also the members of the Company, each have a limited liability of £1 in the event of the charity being wound up. Biographies of Trustees can be found on the School Food Matters website.

Role of Chief Executive

The Chief Executive provides leadership to employees and is responsible for the operational detail and implementation of the business plan and the management of the charity, including control of expenditure in line with budgets and delegations approved by the Board. The Chief Executive reports regularly to the Trustees on progress against agreed priorities and objectives and seeks opportunities to expand and promote the organisation.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed the major strategic, business and operational risks to which School Food Matters is exposed. These include governance and compliance issues, loss of key members of staff, changing government policy, project or campaign failure and loss of income. The Trustees confirm that systems have been established to mitigate any such risks, that appropriate insurance cover has been obtained and that the assessment of risks is kept under review. The charity's risk register, a working document for which all members of staff and Trustees are responsible, is reviewed annually by the Trustees and School Food Matters' management team. It considers the possible risks to the charity and prudent ways to avoid such risks arising, as well as mitigation should problems occur.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees consider the principal risks to School Food Matters to be:

Risk	Mitigation
Financial fraud	The pandemic has allowed fraudsters to flourish in the virtual world. Risks to School Food Matters are significant and include bankruptcy, damage to reputation and potential challenges to capacity, with time spent investigating breaches and ensuring robust financial controls are in place. To mitigate this threat we are regularly reviewing our finance policies and practices, undertaking training in cyber security and seeking expert advice from our auditor, with scrutiny by our finance sub-committee.
Pandemic	The risks to School Food Matters include infection of staff, risk to financial health and stability of charity, especially in the case of a recession, an increase in workload for key members of staff and conflicting priorities. To mitigate these risks we will follow government guidelines, continue to regularly communicate with funders, seek new funds to cover losses in earnings, delegate tasks and clearly communicate with staff to help them prioritise workload.
Damage to reputation	We are proud of our reputation and review our activities and relationships carefully to reflect this. Mitigating activities include compliance with Charity Commission and Companies House regulations, embedding ethical policies, carrying out risk assessments, and ensuring HR policies, such as safeguarding, whistleblowing and data protection and confidentiality are in place. With our Press and Communications Team in place, we are better able to respond to challenges to our reputation in a timely and efficient manner.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of School Food Matters for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

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

Report of the Trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 19 January 2022 and signed on the Board's behalf by



Mr Paul Smith
Trustee

Independent Auditor's report



Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of School Food Matters (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Collards Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
5-9 Eden Street
Kingston-upon-Thames
Surrey
KT1 1BQ

19 January 2022

Reference and administrative details

Company Registration Number	06657048
Charity Registration Number	1134094
Patrons	Baroness Rosie Boycott Princess Dora Loewenstein
Directors/Trustees	Max Beazley Jared Brading Alayna Francis Ossie Gray Nyasha Kambarami (appointed 21 July 2021) Mike Morris Rebecca O'Connell Elizabeth Owens Ben Reynolds (Chair) Paul Smith
Chief Executive	Stephanie Slater
Registered Office	The Bridge 7b Parkshot London TW9 2RD
Independent Auditors	Collards Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors 5-9 Eden Street Kingston-Upon-Thames Surrey KT1 1BQ
Bankers	Santander 2 Triton Square Regent's Place London NW1 3AN --- Triodos Deanery Road Bristol BS1 5AS

Statement of financial activities

incorporating an income and expenditure account

For the year ended 31 August 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	3	**197,892**	**-**	**-**	**197,892**	66,705
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme		**4,124**	**-**	**-**	**4,124**	11,264
Trusts and Foundations		**118,268**	**-**	**-**	**118,268**	66,665
Charitable activities	5					
Project management and services		**522,346**	**2,000**	**631,383**	**1,155,729**	922,085
Membership		**2,379**	**-**	**-**	**2,379**	500
Grant-making		**-**	**46,229**	**-**	**46,229**	70,000
Investment income	4	**192**	**-**	**-**	**192**	1,286
Total		**845,201**	**48,229**	**631,383**	**1,524,813**	1,138,505
EXPENDITURE ON						
Staff costs	12	**412,894**	**-**	**-**	**412,894**	220,898
Cost of raising funds	6	**16,102**	**-**	**-**	**16,102**	14,255
Project management and services	7	**267,678**	**58,580**	**631,383**	**957,641**	794,760
Overheads and governance	8	**71,824**	**-**	**-**	**71,824**	60,743
		768,498	**58,580**	**631,383**	**1,458,461**	1,090,656
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE		**76,703**	**(10,351)**	**-**	**66,352**	47,849
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		**146,915**	**10,351**	**-**	**157,266**	109,417
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**223,618**	**-**	**-**	**223,618**	157,266

Balance sheet

At 31 August 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets	13	7,697	-	-	7,697	6,185
Current assets						
Debtors	14	22,037	-	-	22,037	107,615
Cash at bank		540,693	35,770	-	576,463	426,907
Creditors						
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(346,809)	(35,770)	-	(382,579)	(383,441)
Net current assets		215,921	-	-	215,921	151,081
Total assets less current liabilities		223,618	-	-	223,618	157,266
Net assets		223,618	-	-	223,618	157,266
Funds	17					
Unrestricted funds					223,618	146,915
Designated funds					-	10,351
Restricted funds					-	-
Total funds					223,618	157,266

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

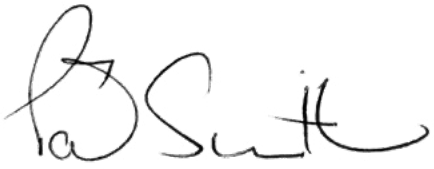
The members have not deposited notice, pursuant to Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requiring an audit of these financial statements.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006;
- 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.

These financial statements have been audited under the requirements of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19 January 2022 and were signed on its behalf by



Mr Paul Smith
Trustee

Cash flow statement
For the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	**153,442**	320,501
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		**153,442**	320,501
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(4,078)**	(6,946)
Interest received		**192**	1,286
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		**(3,886)**	(5,660)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		**149,556**	314,841
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		**426,907**	112,066
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		**576,463**	426,907

Notes to the cash flow statement
For the year ended 31 August 2021

1. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	66,352	47,849
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**2,566**	1,810
Interest received	**(192)**	(1,286)
Increase in debtors	**85,578**	(95,189)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**(862)**	367,317
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	**153,442**	320,501

2. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1.9.20 £	Cash flow £	At 31.8.21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	**426,907**	**149,556**	**576,463**
	426,907	**149,556**	**576,463**
Total	**426,907**	**149,556**	**576,463**

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2021

1. Statutory information

School Food Matters is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found in the report of the Trustees. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

2. 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)', the 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.

School Food Matters meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Income
Income is recognised when:

- the charity has entitlement to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met
- it is probable that the income will be received; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

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

Membership income is accounted for in the year that it is received.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure:

- as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure
- when 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 are depreciated by 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.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds allocated by the funder for particular 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
School Food Matters operates a defined contribution pension scheme administered by NEST. 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 August 2021

3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted & Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Donations	197,892	-	197,892	66,706

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted & Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Deposit account interest	192	-	192	1,286

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted & Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Project Management & Services				
29th May 1961 Charitable Foundation	5,000	-	5,000	-
Abel & Cole	7,913	-	7,913	3,940
Belazu Ingredient Company	10,572	-	10,572	26,749
Camden Borough Council	319	-	319	756
Chefs in Schools	96	-	96	-
Crowdfunder	3,159	-	3,159	-
GLA Kitchen Social	-	2,400	2,400	1,600
Hugh Fraser Foundation	3,000	-	3,000	-
Impact on Urban Health	376,354	593,983	949,054	860,528
NatWest Skills and Opportunities Fund	13,952	-	13,952	3,253
Qube Research Technologies	-	-	-	3,439
Sustain: Food Power for UNICEF UK	-	35,000	35,000	-
The Old Enfield Charitable Trust	460	-	460	450
Whole Kids Foundation	103,521	-	103,521	21,370
	524,346	631,383	1,155,729	922,085
Membership Income	2,379	-	2,379	500
Grant-making funds	46,229	-	46,229	70,000
	572,954	631,383	1,204,337	992,585

6. Raising funds

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	9,958	7,506
Rent, rates and water	4,453	4,420
Insurance	160	146
Telephone	365	226
Stationery & Office Costs	132	1,368
Travel	177	288
Governance	600	120
Depreciation	257	181
	16,102	14,255

7. Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs	Suppor costs (see note 8)	Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	412,894	-	412,894
Cost of raising funds	9,958	6,144	16,102
Project management and services	957,641	71,824	1,029,465
	1,380,493	77,968	1,458,461

8. Support costs

	Overheads	Governance costs	Total
	£	£	£
Cost of raising funds	5,544	600	6,144
Overheads and governance	66,424	5,400	71,824
	71,968	6,000	77,968

9. Auditors' remuneration

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	6,000	-

10. Net income/(expenditure)

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation – owned assets	2,566	1,809

11. Key management personnel

There were no salaries or other benefits paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2021, nor for the year ended 31 August 2020. There were no expenses paid to Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2021, nor for the year ended 31 August 2020.

The total employee benefits of key management personnel, including pension contributions, for the year to 31 August 2021 were £117,546 (£95,545 for the year to 31 August 2020).

Pay for key management personnel at School Food Matters has been benchmarked and reflects the market rate for comparable jobs in comparable organisations. Pay also reflects level of knowledge, skills and experience required, and the responsibilities and accountabilities associated with each role. Staff pay is reviewed annually and agreed with the Trustees.

12. Staff costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages	207,980	129,252
Social security	13,499	7,561
Pensions	6,925	2,123
	228,404	138,891

In addition to employing staff, the charity also benefits from the use of unpaid volunteers. During the year this amounted to the equivalent of 28 days work which if paid at the London Living Wage would have cost the charity £2,430 in wages.

During the year the charity benefited from the services provided by a university employee who was seconded to the charity to provide advice on research and evaluation. The cost of the secondee, £4,500, was covered by funding from the university.

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

	2021	2020
Admin & support staff	14	10
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	10.2	6.3

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

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 September 2020	**8,380**
Additions	**4,078**
At 31 August 2021	**12,458**
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2020	**2,195**
Charge for year	**2,566**
At 31 August 2021	**4,761**
Net book value	
At 31 August 2021	**7,697**
At 31 August 2020	**6,185**

14. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	**12,560**	101,277
Accrued income	**7,913**	6,157
Other debtors	**155**	-
Prepayments	**1,409**	181
	22,037	107,615

Trade debtors relate to amounts due in respect of unrestricted fund programmes.
Trade debtors for the previous year included £89,000 due from Guy's and St Thomas' Charity for our Covid response programme, Breakfast Boxes with the remainder being another payment due from Guy's and St Thomas' Charity for our part in a research project called School Food: a policy and funding review.

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other creditors	**10,069**	6,818
Accruals and deferred income	**372,510**	376,623
	382,579	383,441

Accruals and deferred income includes £36,895 in payments due to suppliers for costs incurred during the year.
£335,615 is income received in 2020/21 for food education projects that have been postponed to 2021/22 owing to Covid.
Last year accruals and deferred income included £116,000 in payments due to suppliers for our Breakfast Boxes programme and £251,000 was income received in 2019/20 for food education projects that were postponed to 2020/21 owing to Covid.

16. Leasing agreements

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Within one year	11,044	11,044

17. Movement in funds

	At 1.9.20	Net movement in funds	At 31.8.21
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	146,915	73,233	220,148
Designated – Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants	10,351	(10,351)	-
Designated – People Power Breakfast Boxes	-	3,470	3,470
	157,266	66,352	223,618
Total funds	157,266	66,352	223,618

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	694,578	(621,345)	73,233
Designated – Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants	46,229	(56,580)	(10,351)
Designated – People Power Breakfast Boxes	150,623	(147,153)	3,470
Betty Messenger Charitable Foundation	2,000	(2,000)	-
	893,430	(827,078)	66,352
Restricted funds			
Impact on Urban Health	593,983	(593,983)	-
GLA Kitchen Social	2,400	(2,400)	-
Sustain: Food Power for UNICEF UK	35,000	(35,000)	-
	631,383	(631,383)	-
Total funds	1,524,813	(1,458,461)	66,352

17. Movement in funds – continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.19	Net movement in funds	At 31.8.20
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	106,227	40,688	146,915
Designated – Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants	3,190	7,161	10,351
	109,417	47,849	157,266
Total funds	109,417	47,849	157,266

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds			
General fund	409,809	(369,121)	40,688
Designated – Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants	70,000	(62,839)	7,161
	479,809	(431,960)	47,849
Restricted funds			
Impact on Urban Health	658,697	(658,697)	-
Total funds	1,138,506	(1,090,657)	47,849

18. Related party disclosures

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

19. Independent examiners fees for year ended 31 August 2020

The fees paid to the independent examiner during the period in respect of their independent examination provided by them are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Independent examination	-	1,200





School Food Matters
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www.schoolfoodmatters.org