

Charity Registration No. 1155150

Company Registration No. 08808550 (England and Wales)

**LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING
LIMITED**

DIRECTORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

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LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

COMPANY INFORMATION YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Directors and Trustees	Mr M R Slumbers (Chairman) Mr R W Crawford Clarke
Secretary	Mrs H Betts (resigned 02 October 2023) Mrs B M Hibbert (appointed 02 October 2023)
Charity No.	1155150
Company No.	08808550
Principal Address	Broadwater Road Worthing West Sussex BN14 8HU
Registered Office	Lancing College Lancing West Sussex BN15 0RW
Head	Mrs Francesca Milling
Bursar	Mr Mark Milling
Auditor	Moore Kingston Smith LLP 9 Appold Street London EC2A 2AP
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 1 Churchill Place Canary Wharf London E14 5HP

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

COMPANY INFORMATION *YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024*

Solicitors

DMH Stallard LLP
Griffin House
135 High Street
Crawley
West Sussex
RH10 1DQ

Veale Wasborough Vizards LLP
Narrow Quay
Bristol
BS1 4QA

Insurance Brokers

Marsh
1 Tower Place West
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London
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Investment Advisers

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8 Finsbury Circus
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LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT (incorporating the Strategic Report) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The directors, who are also trustees of the charitable company for the purposes of charity law, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 2011, the 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.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The charity was formed in December 2013 and is registered with the Charity Commission as charity number 1155150. The charity is a limited liability company and wholly owned subsidiary of Lancing College Limited (charity number 1076483) which in turn is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Woodard Corporation (charity number 1096270). The charitable company is registered in England and Wales.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Company is governed by Articles of Association as adopted by Special Resolution dated 10 December 2013. They permit funds to be managed in such a manner as the directors see fit, provided that such powers are only exercised for the purposes of attaining the objects and in a manner which is legally charitable. The Articles of Association forbid the distribution of any property or funds, which are to be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the school.

Governing Body

The school is governed by the full Governing Body of Lancing College, which owns 100% of the shares of the Company. The Governing Body operates using a number of committees. The Governing Body met termly during the year.

The charitable company has made qualifying third party indemnity provisions for the benefit of its trustees during the year. These provisions remain in force at the reporting date. This insurance was paid for by Lancing College Limited.

Recruitment and Training of Governors

Governors of Lancing College Limited are recruited on the basis of nominations from school contacts and from selection when a post becomes available. The Governing Body look to ensure a mix of skills and select new Governors on the basis of background, competence, specialist skills. Governors are provided with induction training by the Head and Bursar.

Where possible the Governors consider that the skills and experience of the Board should comprise the following:

- A Governor with a legal background.
- A Governor with a financial/accounting background.
- A Governor with education experience.
- A Governor with senior managerial or business experience.
- A Governor with experience of equal opportunities or disability needs.
- At least one female Governor and at least one male Governor.

One Governor may have one or more of these skills.

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Volunteers

Governors are volunteers providing their time for free to support the governance of the school. The school also relies on others to undertake volunteer roles including some classroom assistants. The school also has a number of volunteer groups helping the school to raise funds and assisting in events. The Governing Body would like to thank all these volunteers for their help.

Organisational Management

The school is governed by the Governing Body of Lancing College Limited. The Governors determine the general policy of the school. The day-to-day management of the school is delegated to the Head and the Bursar, overseeing educational, pastoral and administrative functions in consultation with the senior staff. The day-to-day administration is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors, which provide for significant expenditure decisions and major capital projects to be referred to the Governors for prior approval.

The Head oversees the recruitment of all educational staff and the Bursar oversees the recruitment of administrative and non-teaching support staff. The Head and Bursar are invited to attend Governors' meetings.

The remuneration of Key Management Personnel is set by the Governing Body, with the policy objective of providing appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and of rewarding them fairly and responsibly for their individual contributions to the school's success.

The appropriateness and relevance of the remuneration policy is reviewed annually, including reference to comparisons with other independent schools to ensure that the school remains sensitive to the broader issues of pay and employment conditions elsewhere.

The Governing Body considers all finance matters including budgets, both revenue and capital, cash flow information and financial reports, including the financial statements. It also considers financial policies and the financial regulations and the results of the audit.

Group Structure and Relationships

The group has developed links with a wide range of organisations to ensure the widest possible access to our facilities and schooling. Through membership of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC) and the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS) and through networking with peer groups we ensure that we are able to attain the highest standards of quality and performance. We encourage our pupils to develop an awareness of the social context of the all-round education they receive at the school and they are engaged in a number of activities to enhance their understanding. We also cooperate with many local charities in our ongoing endeavours to widen public access to the schooling we can provide, to optimise the educational use of our cultural and sporting facilities and to awaken in our pupils, in the public interest, an awareness of the social context of the all-round education they receive.

Employment Policy

The school is an equal opportunity organisation and is a friendly, ethical, vibrant and outward-looking place to work. It acts with integrity and treats all with respect, valuing diversity and rejecting discrimination. The school is fully committed to creating and promoting a diverse and inclusive workforce that reflects both our local community and our cosmopolitan student body. Job applications are welcome from all suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, religion, sexuality, gender, age or disability and applications from under-represented groups are particularly encouraged. The school will make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or pupils who are or become disabled. The remuneration of key management personnel is set by the Governing Body. The Governor and Staff Liaison Committee meets termly. This committee enables a forum for Governors and senior management to brief and update employees and to encourage their involvement in strategic and tactical decision making.

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CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES, AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable Objects

The charity's objects, as set out in the Articles of Association, are to advance education (including spiritual, moral, social, cultural and physical education) in accordance with the doctrines and principles of the Church in the Diocese of Chichester.

Intended Impact and Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and on fee-charging. Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited is a charitable trust which seeks to benefit the public through the pursuit of its stated aims. Our fees are set at a level to ensure the financial viability of the school and at a level that is consistent with our aim of providing a first-class education to all pupils.

The school's charitable objectives are 'to promote and extend education', and these objectives are recognised as benefiting the public when pursued in the context of formal education in a body where all surplus funds are re-invested.

The Woodard Corporation and all of the schools it owns, including Lancing College Limited and Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited, are charitable bodies, with no external shareholders and no possibility of making distributions, including in the form of dividends. All surpluses are re-invested in education.

Our school welcomes pupils from all backgrounds. To admit a prospective pupil we need to be satisfied that our school will be able to educate and develop the pupil to the best of their potential and in line with the general standards achieved by their peers. Entrance interviews and assessments are undertaken to satisfy ourselves and parents that potential pupils can cope with the pace of learning and benefit from the education we provide. An individual's economic status, gender, ethnicity, race, religion or disability do not form part of our assessment processes.

Our school is a part of a wider community and we are keen that our staff and pupils participate. Our school also offers resources to support a range of educational activities for the benefit of local children attending state schools and their teachers. Our Governors are committed to developing our programme of cooperation and joint working with local maintained sector junior and secondary schools.

Within the objects, the school aims to create an environment to nurture children, to get the best from them and to allow them to develop and fulfil their potential. We provide them with a first-class independent education and a wide range of sporting and artistic opportunities. Our public benefit aim is that all pupils will be self-confident and desire to contribute to the wider community.

In the furtherance of these aims the Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited directors, as the charity trustees, have complied with the duty in s.17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's published general and relevant sub-sector guidance concerning the operation of the public benefit requirement under that Act.

The Woodard Corporation and its schools provide a significant benefit to the public. The school strives to ensure that measures of public benefit are appropriate, and that significant sections of the public are not excluded from the opportunity to benefit from the education and facilities offered due to the need to pay a fee. In addition to significant provision of bursaries and other forms of financial support, the school provides a wide range of opportunities for community benefit and facilities and events are often open to all.

It is a key requirement of evidencing public benefit that any private benefit to individuals or elements of the charity will be incidental to the charity's objectives. An example of private benefit may be the

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reimbursement of travelling expenses for directors attending training courses: any private benefit to individuals or elements of The Woodard Corporation are incidental to delivery of the charitable objectives.

Aims

The aims of the school are:

- To preserve and promote the Christian values which lie at the heart of the foundation of the school.
- To provide an education for boys and girls aged 2 to 13 which inspires a desire for excellence and enables them to develop independent, searching minds and to realise their full academic potential.
- To ensure, as far as possible, that the years children spend at the school are happy and fulfilling ones.
- To maintain a close partnership with parents in guiding, and caring for, their children.
- To give each child the opportunity to experience a wide variety of activities which are not part of the examined curriculum and to encourage an interest in sport, music, drama, community service and other pursuits through the provision of excellent facilities and supervision.
- To provide a safe, welcoming, supportive and tolerant environment in which each pupil feels valued as an individual and, in turn, learns the importance of tolerance and consideration towards others.
- To help each child realise the importance of contributing to the community, both inside the school and beyond, and to ensure that the wider community benefits from the existence of the school.
- To facilitate entry, where possible, to the school for children from underprivileged backgrounds with the potential to benefit from a Lancing education.
- To work constantly towards the improvement and good maintenance of the school facilities and to exercise a careful, responsible stewardship of the school grounds.
- To appoint talented staff who enjoy the responsibility of fulfilling these aims and to assist them in their professional development.

Objectives for the Year

This year the focus has been on the following:

- To continue the achievement of academic excellence.
- To implement school-wide developments in teaching and learning.
- To continue to improve facilities, both pastoral and academic.
- To maintain teaching staff expertise through continued professional development combined with the recruitment of teachers of ability and commitment.
- To develop and expand the way in which the senior school and the prep schools work together.

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- To increase pupil numbers in the school.
- To extend access to the school's facilities for the local community.

Strategies to Achieve this Year's Objectives

These included:

- Benchmarking of academic standards against public examinations and independent value-added criteria.
- School-wide developments in Teaching and Learning, in particular to promote independent learning.
- Major investment in the refurbishment of facilities throughout the school and maintaining and developing the school's teaching resources.
- Ensuring the integration of the school with the senior school and sharing both teaching and physical facilities.
- Increasing the local community's awareness of the existence of the school by considered strategic marketing.

Principal Activities of the Period

The principal activity of the school is the delivery of education to pupils ranging from 2 to 13 years of age. We also run a number of summer school activities and the school is open at other times for use by the local community.

Pupil numbers at the school during the period were as follows:

	2023/24	2022/23
Preparatory School	150	133
Pre-Preparatory School	66	74
Total	<u>216</u>	<u>207</u>

	2023/24		2022/23	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Preparatory School	83	67	70	63
Pre-Preparatory School	40	26	39	35
Total	<u>123</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>109</u>	<u>98</u>

Bursaries and Scholarships

It is important to us that access to the education we offer is not restricted to those who can afford our fees. We believe our pupils benefit from learning within a diverse community. A great deal of learning occurs through social interaction, conversation and shared experiences which helps our pupils develop an understanding of the perspectives of other people that will be vital in their adult lives.

Our concessions policies, including for bursaries, contribute to a widening of access to the education we offer and the facilities we enjoy.

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The school granted awards, including scholarships, bursaries, discounts and concessions of £308k (2023 - £290k). In the past year the school has provided Means Tested Financial Assistance or Scholarships to 17 pupils (2023 – 21 pupils) and the total value was £79k (2023 – £88k) which represented 2.4% (2023 – 3.7%) of gross fee income. Other discounts or concessions including staff and sibling discounts were awarded to 81 pupils (2023 – 68 pupils) and the value was £229k (2023 – £202k). The availability of all such awards for fee-assistance, together with the terms and conditions for each kind of award, is advertised on our website at www.lancingcollege.co.uk.

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in helping to ensure children from families who would otherwise not be able to afford the fees can access the education we offer. Our bursary awards are available to all who meet our general entry requirements and are made solely on the basis of parental means or to relieve hardship where a pupil's education and future prospects would otherwise be at risk for example in the case of redundancy. In assessing means we use the methodology recommended by the Independent Schools' Bursars Association, which takes a number of factors into consideration including family income, investments and savings and family circumstances for example dependant relatives and the number of siblings. Our school does not have an endowment and in funding our awards we have to be mindful that we must ensure a balance between fee-paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards.

The bursary awards range from 20% to 50% remission of fees. Information about fee assistance through bursaries is provided to all applying to the school. Further details of our bursary policy and how to apply are available on our website. Details of bursary awards are also set out in note 2 to the accounts.

Other Policies on Assistance:

Financial planning policy

Timely financial planning is often the key for many parents who are hoping to send their children to Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited and a school fees plan is available to help those who wish to fund educational costs through regular contributions.

Family discounts policy

To underline the value we place on continuity for families, we offer discounts where parents have more than one child at the school.

Assistance for our teaching staff

As part of our emphasis on attracting and retaining high calibre staff, we offer a discount scheme where staff members choose to educate their children at our school.

STRATEGIC REPORT

REVIEW OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE PERIOD

The Promotion of Education

During the year an average of 216 pupils between the ages of 2 and 13 were educated. This compares with 207 pupils in the period 2022/23. The Governors are pleased with the growing pupil roll during these uncertain times and are expecting a further rise in pupil numbers in the years to come. The school provides a very high standard of education and this is validated in the review of the academic results, and through external inspections. The school offers a broad curriculum and educates children with a wide range of ability. The school can demonstrate particular excellence in all academic areas (including the Strategically Important and Vulnerable subjects [SIVs] - Mathematics, Science and Modern Languages), Music, Arts, Drama and Sport. The aim is to support children in reaching their potential in all areas of their activity at the school.

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Academic Results

We are very proud to share that our Early Years Team achieved a significant milestone by winning the Pearson National Teaching Awards 2024 Bronze award. This places us among the top early years' settings in the country, showcasing our commitment to providing outstanding early childhood education. This Summer Term we also had cause to celebrate when Mrs Francesca Milling was awarded Headteacher of the Year in a Primary Setting. The school has also been shortlisted for 'Best Small Independent School of the Year'.

We are thrilled with our Year 8 pupils who achieved excellent scholarship results again this year. From our 20 pupils in Year 8, 14 Scholarships were awarded to Lancing College and 1 to Our Lady of Sion. These were: The Sankey Academic Scholarship (the highest award), 3 Academic Scholarships, 5 Drama Scholarships, 3 Sports Scholarships, 1 Headmaster's Award and 1 Ken Shearwood All-Rounder Award to Lancing College. 1 pupil received a Louise Humann Scholarship to Our Lady of Sion School.

From our Year 6 cohort, 63% (12/19) chose to apply for the Lancing College Advance Programme in 2023/2024, with 10% (2) deciding to wait until 2024/2025, due to being new to the school. This number, though lower than the previous year's average of 88%, was anticipated with some families seeing Year 6 as a 'natural breaking point' at which to re-enter the state system. Of the applicants, (67%) (8/12) were successful and gained guaranteed places at the College. Of the remaining 33% (3/12), 11% (1/12) are resitting again this year whilst 22% (2/12) remain with us and are looking at schools to best suit their educational needs.

The Nursery has 26 children on roll for September 2024, with more children registered to join in the Spring and Summer Terms. Miss Mia Coggin completed her apprenticeship with us and achieved her Level 3 Early Years Educator. She will join the Nursery team as a permanent, part-time member from September 2024. We extended our Early Years Free Entitlement Funding (EYFE) offer so, starting from September 2024, working parents of 2-year-old children who are eligible will now have access to 15 hours of EYFE at the beginning of the term they start with us. We have several children starting with us in September 2024 who turn two in the Autumn Term, and this means we can offer the EYFE to them immediately.

100% of children reached the expected level in the Prime Areas (Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development). 86.6% of children reached a Good Level of Development (GLD). There were no significant differences between boys and girls for achieving GLD. In our cohort, the average number of Early Learning Goals at Expected Level per child was 16.8. The maximum is 17 and in 2023, nationally, the average number of Early Learning Goals at Expected Level per child was 14.1.

Pupils in Year 1 to Year 7 sat GL Progress Tests in English and Maths in the summer term. In English, the mean stanine for most year groups was at the higher end of average. The most notable group across the school is the higher achievers.

Pupils in Year 6, 7 and 8 chose to enter the Townsend-Warner competition again this year. There were over 1,142 entries from 72 well known prep and senior schools. We are thrilled for our pupils and where they were placed: 41st, 85th, 151st and 202nd.

The school was inspected in June 2022 and was judged to be both compliant and excellent in 'Academic and Other Achievements' and 'Personal Development' achieving 'excellent' judgements in all 16 categories of educational quality. All members of the school community were delighted with this recognition of the quality of education provided.

Improving Facilities

Significant investment continues to be made into the buildings - various classrooms (and loos!) were fully refurbished and other common areas were re-floored and refreshed. A major flat roof was replaced and significant electrical work undertaken.

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Arts, Music and Drama

Art, music and drama continue to be a great strength. 70 pupils sat LAMDA examinations in the Summer Term with 69 receiving distinctions.

Many of our children continue to be keen to join the busy musical life of the school through individual music lessons and a range of ensembles (orchestra, string ensemble, rock band, brass band and two choirs). Music is vibrant and alive at LPW with 75% of pupils playing an instrument and over 50% learning 2 or more. In the Summer Term many pupils sat ABRSM exams with all achieving pass, merit or distinction grades.

Our annual musical, *"High School Musical"*, was a great success and involved a significant majority of pupils in Years 6, 7 and 8.

Sport

Our cricket U13 A team and our mixed U13 A team remained undefeated this season. Alongside this we triumphed in all tag rugby matches. Every pupil in the Prep has represented the school in football, netball, hockey, or cricket fixtures this year. It is very important to us that all our children 'Love Learning' and that includes sports. We have brought girls' football onto the curriculum and are beginning to see success in fixtures.

We are delighted that all our Prep children have continued to have a minimum of one session per week of sports at the College. Alongside the great benefits of this for our pupils, it is excellent CPD for our PE staff and an opportunity to share ideas and experience.

The LPW Festival of Fun sports events have run again with Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils from many local prep and primary schools being invited to participate in mixed teams to play a series of mini fixtures with a focus on netball, football and tag rugby.

Swimming lessons have been in place for all our children in our Nursery and Reception class and in Years 3 to 6. We extend our gratitude to Lancing College for access to their pool. We have several pupils in Years 7 and 8 who have participated in swimming galas, competed in IAPS contests, and represented Lancing College across various age groups.

All our Prep pupils participated in a junior golf day. This was an opportunity for them to play games and tasks that are based around the skills needed to play golf, with the aim of allowing them to play golf independently on a golf course. American Flag football continues to be successful and we now have a KS2 and KS3 team. There were a vast number of after school sporting clubs on offer for our pupils including football, netball, basketball, gymnastics, cricket, dance, yoga and karate.

LPW took part in the Dance Festival at Lancing College. Our Year 1 and 2 and some Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in the show over two nights, and it was an exciting experience for all those involved.

As part of our co-curricular programme, we took 36 pupils skiing for the first time to Sestriere, Italy. We put on a trip to Surrey sports park to watch Surrey Storm Super League netball team in a pre-season friendly. Before and after Christmas all our pupils attended ice skating sessions in their PE lessons.

Wider Community Activity

This year we launched the LPW Aspire Programme. The programme has involved partnering with local maintained schools, supporting local educational networks and groups, organising special topic days, and increasing activities with other schools. Aspire is about every pupil and teacher feeling that they are reaching together towards more ambitious goals both for individuals and as a community. On a Saturday morning each term we welcomed over twenty Year 5 and 6 pupils who were identified as able, gifted, and talented from local state-maintained schools. The pupils participated in English, Science, French, Team Building and Critical Thinking workshops, free of charge. We have become members of

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NACE (National Association for Able Children in Education).

We have continued to form new relationships with local primary school heads and local nursery managers. To date this academic year, we have visited and/or welcomed 5 local nurseries, 5 state primary schools and 3 state secondary school leaders. In the Autumn Term, we welcomed all the pre-school children from Reflections Nursery for a morning of activities, in the Spring Term a group of 19 pre-school children from Davisons Nursery and in the Summer Term, the pre-school children from Little Lancing Nursery. The children participated in a PE and music workshop, a story time with Mrs Stephens in the Reception classroom and had a drink and snack on our beautiful field. The day was a success, and the children and the Nursery staff went away happy and with a goody bag. This will continue to be a termly event.

In the Spring Term we welcomed 50 French pupils and their teachers from an inner-city school in Paris for an afternoon at LPW.

This year, we have set up two new alumni organisations. One is the ALPW (Alumni LPW) for former pupils 2014-2024 – '10 years of success.' The second is the Friends of Broadwater Manor, working towards the 100th anniversary of the school in 2030. An ALPW Newsletter was created and sent to all those who have signed up, to date. It included a spotlight on past pupils, how they may spread the word and an invitation to three events this Summer Term: Sports Day afternoon, Summer Fair and Summer Music Soiree all followed by drinks and a tour of the school.

Charity

Over the course of the spring term and early part of the Summer Term, pupils in all age groups contributed a considerable amount of food to a local homelessness charity, Turning Tides. Our Bannister Mile sponsored run raised almost £2k for Worthing Mencap. Our annual Bannister Mile run, since it started in 2018, has raised £16,531 for local and international charities, and additional smaller sums were raised during the year for several other charities too. Our Green Team is working on a long-term project with Green Schools Project on working towards becoming a Zero Carbon Green school. This is a long-term project but demonstrates our school community's desire to bring about positive change. We have also been working with the organisation 'World of Books' who donate to schools. In the Spring Term we received 4 large crates of books. We kept 1 for our school library and donated the other 3 to local state maintained junior schools as part of our relationship development work.

KPI Review

Fee receipts increased by £399k to £2,476k in 2023/ 24. The deficit reversed from £138k in 2022/ 23 to a reinvestment surplus of £282k in 2023/ 24. Pupil numbers rose from 207 to 216.

Responding to External Pressures

The independent schools' sector, including Woodard independent schools, stood up well to the problems created by the 'cost of living crisis' but independent schools remained concerned, and many were planning for pressure on pupil numbers, particularly once the new Labour Government confirmed the introduction of VAT on school fees from 1st January 2025.

The increases in the cost of living impacted all areas of cost for independent schools, particularly in staff costs and utilities. The more recent return to long term rates of inflation has lessened this impact, but schools have all faced an issue in recovering their costs through fee rises. This will continue with the introduction of VAT.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Year

The net surplus for the year was £282k (2023 - £138k deficit) which was in line with our expectations. These surpluses are planned to grow over the next year or two as we build pupil numbers.

Reserves Level and Policy, and Financial Viability

The school is fully supported financially by its parent company, Lancing College Limited.

It is the school's policy to utilise funds to ensure that high quality up-to-date facilities are provided for the benefit of pupils. The medium-term aim is to budget so as to provide sufficient working capital to meet the present needs and future development requirements of the school without the requirement to have recourse to sales of tangible fixed assets. Unrestricted funds increased by £282k (2023 – decreased by £138k) during the year to a total deficit of £2,108k (2023 – £2,390k), as shown in note 17.

In common with other independent schools, the Governors have invested substantial sums into the school buildings in recent years and have a continuing programme of refurbishment, development and investment to maintain excellent teaching facilities for our pupils. In common with most independent schools, free reserves are at a negative balance illustrating the extent of the investment in our school. Free reserves describe a charity's ability to meet short to medium-term charitable commitments from 'liquid' net assets. Calculation per the SORP definition excludes fixed assets whilst including the liabilities associated with long-term borrowing to fund their purchase.

The school has negative reserves of £2,108k but is fully supported by Lancing College Limited, which has expressed that the inter-company loan balance will not be withdrawn whilst the school is returned to a surplus making position and until it is able to repay the loan. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the Annual Report and Accounts.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The consideration of risks in the paragraphs below reflects the current more stable environment, post the coronavirus pandemic, offering a wider view of common events plus a specific consideration of those events that could impact the continuity of education.

The Governors consider the economic turbulence of recent years and the affordability of fees by parents across the independent sector to be the principal risk faced by the school. There is no room for complacency particularly as we exit a period of high cost inflation. For September 2023 the Governing Body increased fees by 9% - the school faced very high cost inflation of in 2022/23 largely due to an increase in utility costs for the year. As inflation began to slow, the fees were increased by 5% in September 2024.

The independent sector as a whole is currently subject to increased political risk following confirmation by the Government that they will remove tax concessions for charitable independent schools, adding VAT and removing business rates relief. There is a significant risk to the independent sector as adding VAT to school fees from 1st January 2025 may make the fees unaffordable for a proportion of parents, potentially affecting school income. The full effect will not be known until all details of the policy are announced and schools and parents are able to assess the impact on affordability. The school will do everything it can to mitigate the impact on fees for parents.

Health and Safety is always a significant area for risk management. The risks range from fire and damage to infrastructure, to personal risks (most notably when away from the campus on trips and expeditions). The level and breadth of activity at the school is impressive and the risks associated with all activities are minimised by thorough planning and risk assessment.

The Governing Body is responsible for the identification and management of risks. The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the directors, have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks. Detailed examination of the risks and establishment of controls to mitigate them is delegated to the executive and the examination of risks is

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT (incorporating the Strategic Report) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

discussed at all of the sub committees and at the main Governing Body. Major risks to which the school is exposed include those affecting safeguarding and protection of pupils, the security and preservation of charitable assets both now and in the future and inflationary pressures on utilities, especially energy, and other costs. The Governing Body continually scans the horizon for emerging or changing risks.

Significant risk areas:

- the Governors consider possible catastrophic business interruption events and ensure that the school has a plan in place to allow education to continue in a range of different scenarios
- the market in which the school operates is highly competitive and we monitor developments in education to ensure that pupils always receive a first class, holistic and varied educational experience in our school
- we strive to ensure that all staff are able to work in a safe and supportive environment and policies, procedures and training in Human Resource management and Health and Safety help to ensure that the school meets expectations
- the school operates in a highly regulated sector, including in matters of safeguarding and child protection, and we ensure that there is appropriate governance in place to manage safeguarding risks including a designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputies. We appoint appropriate professional advisers to ensure that we can keep up to date with all requirements including school or individual membership of bodies being the constituent associations of the Independent Schools Council, ensuring that we have access to up-to-date information and support from West Sussex and National safeguarding organisations
- we are also exposed to financial risks such as the imposition of VAT on school fees and a reduction in charitable rates relief. We keep abreast of all planned or anticipated changes and will adapt our financial management of the school accordingly
- the school operates in an increasingly litigious environment and we appoint appropriate professional advisers and purchase insurance using specialist brokers and advisers to ensure that we can keep up to date with all requirements and meet all challenges
- all organisations face difficult economic conditions and directors and senior managers in the school keep abreast of economic conditions locally, nationally and internationally to identify trends and develop plans to address issues

The key controls used by the school include:

- formal agendas and minutes for all meetings of the Governing Body and committees
- a comprehensive risk register which is regularly reviewed and updated
- a crisis response plan
- terms of reference for all committees
- comprehensive strategic planning, financial forecasting, budgeting and management accounting, including where appropriate, auditing of accounts
- established and identifiable organisational structures and reporting lines which are regularly reviewed
- comprehensive formal written policies
- clear authorisation limits
- vetting procedures, as required by law, for protection of the vulnerable
- the use of external experts and agencies where required

The school plans strategically having regard for risk. The executive provides the Governing Body with regular reports which include details of the principal strategic objectives, the risks to achieving these objectives and the mitigating actions to manage those risks. The school also records significant achievements and updates the Governing Body and The Woodard Corporation on short-term plans and risks.

The strategy is discussed between the Governing Body and the Woodard Board and protocols have been developed and agreed which outline the relationship between the two bodies.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT (incorporating the Strategic Report) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The school uses financial instruments, other than derivatives, comprising loans, cash and other liquid resources and various other items such as trade debtors and creditors that arise directly from operations. The main purpose of these financial instruments is to raise finance for the school's operations. The school is fully supported financially by Lancing College, its parent company.

The main issues arising from the school's financial instruments are liquidity risk and interest rate risk. The directors adopt policies for managing each of the risks and these are summarised below:

- Liquidity risk – the school seeks to manage financial risk by ensuring sufficient liquidity is available to meet foreseeable needs by negotiating adequate facilities from banks and other lenders.
- Interest rate risk – the School finances operations through a mixture of retained surpluses and bank and other borrowings. The exposure to interest rate fluctuations is managed by the use of both fixed and floating facilities.

GOING CONCERN

Lancing Prep at Worthing is fully supported by Lancing College Limited.

Having considered all factors and reviewing the available evidence, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the charity will be able to continue operating for the foreseeable future and the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. Further details related to the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies on page 23.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The Strategic Development Plan of Lancing College and its Prep Schools is revised annually.

The key current objectives are:

- To promote teaching that encourages active learning and critical, creative and independent thinking.
- To maintain and improve monitoring of pupil progress.
- To maintain and improve the current high standards of academic achievement.
- To promote and maintain standards of excellence in sport, music, drama and all other aspects of our extra-curricular provision.
- To develop and improve facilities and ICT for pupils and staff.
- To recruit and retain members of the Common Room capable and willing to involve themselves fully in the academic, pastoral and extra-curricular activities of the school.
- To develop and enhance the school's relationship with both the local and the wider community and to develop wider community access to the school's facilities.
- To increase the capability of the school to offer education to children whose parents are unable to afford full fees.
- To provide and improve pre-prep and prep education in Worthing.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT (incorporating the Strategic Report) *YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024*

AUDITOR

Following a competitive tender process, Moore Kingston Smith LLP were appointed as the company's external auditors at the Annual General Meeting held on 23rd May 2024, for the year to 31 August 2024 onwards. As a consequence, RSM UK Audit LLP did not offer themselves for reappointment under section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006. The Board would like to express its appreciation to RSM for their services over the past seven years.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT (incorporating the Strategic Report) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The directors who are also trustees for the purpose of charity law are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report incorporating the Strategic Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the directors have elected to prepare financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the 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 these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

Provision of information to the Auditor

The directors confirm that:

- so far as each director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

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

The Directors' Report incorporating the Strategic Report have been approved by the board of directors of Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited on ...²... December 2024 and signed on their behalf:



M R Slumbers CHAIRMAN

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Lancing Preparatory School at Worthing Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited (the charitable company) for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Directors' 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 Directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Directors are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. 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.

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.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Lancing Preparatory School at Worthing Limited

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 Directors' Report and the incorporated Strategic Report prepared for the purpose of company law for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report and the incorporated Strategic Report have 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 their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report and the incorporated Strategic Report.

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 directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' responsibilities set out on page 15, 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 Directors are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Lancing Preparatory School at Worthing Limited

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory frameworks that the charitable company operates in and how the charitable company is complying with the legal and regulatory frameworks;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP, Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, the charitable company's governing document, and tax legislation. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the Directors' Report, remaining alert to new or unusual transactions which may not be in accordance with the governing documents, inspecting correspondence with local tax authorities and evaluating advice received from external advisors.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, Keeping Children Safe in Education under section 175 of the Education Act 2002, and the UK General Data protection Regulation (UK GDPR). We performed audit procedures to inquire of management and those charged with governance whether the charitable company is in compliance with these laws and regulations and inspected correspondence with regulatory authorities.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls and the risk of revenue recognition for non-fee income as the areas where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. In respect of the risk of management override of controls, audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business and challenging judgments and estimates. In respect of the risk of revenue recognition for non-fee income, audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing samples of transactions back to underlying documentation.

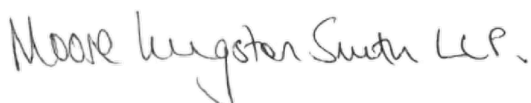
A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Lancing Preparatory School at Worthing Limited

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 auditor's 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.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Aikens', followed by the text 'Moore Kingston Smith LLP'.

Jonathan Aikens, Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP,
Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants
9 Appold Street, London, EC2A 2AP

Dated 20 December 2024

**LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING
LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating an Income and
Expenditure Account)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024**

		2024	2024	2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME FROM:					
Income from Charitable Activities					
School fees	2	2,475,624	-	2,475,624	2,076,690
Ancillary trading income	3	96,848	-	96,848	66,402
Non-ancillary trading income	3	4,978	-	4,978	3,924
Other – Grants and donations		-	2,075	2,075	-
TOTAL INCOME		2,577,450	2,075	2,579,525	2,147,016
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable Activities					
Schools and grant-making		2,297,213	450	2,297,663	2,284,974
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7	2,297,213	450	2,297,663	2,284,974
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE)	4	280,237	1,625	281,862	(137,958)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		280,237	1,625	281,862	(137,958)
Fund balances brought forward at 1 September		(2,389,715)	-	(2,389,715)	(2,251,757)
FUND BALANCES AS AT 31 AUGUST		(2,109,478)	1,625	(2,107,853)	(2,389,715)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING
LIMITED
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9		248,837		265,151
			<u>248,837</u>		<u>265,151</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	48,585		45,599	
		<u>48,585</u>		<u>45,599</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors due within one year	11	(2,221,303)		(2,678,292)	
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>(2,172,718)</u>		<u>(2,632,693)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>(1,923,881)</u>		<u>(2,367,542)</u>
LONG TERM LIABILITIES					
Creditors payable after one year	12		(183,872)		(22,073)
NET LIABILITIES			<u>(2,107,753)</u>		<u>(2,389,615)</u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital	14		100		100
FUNDS					
Restricted funds	15		1,625		-
Unrestricted funds:					
General reserve			(2,109,478)		(2,389,715)
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	16		<u>(2,107,753)</u>		<u>(2,389,615)</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 2... December 2024 and signed on its behalf by



Mr M R Slumbers (Chairman)

Company registration number: 08808550

The notes on pages 23 to 34 form part of these financial statements

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies, all of which have been applied consistently throughout the period:

a) Basis of Accounting

These accounts are the individual company accounts for Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited, a private charitable company limited by shares incorporated and registered in England and Wales. The accounts of the company have been prepared under the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities ('SORP (FRS102)') and with applicable UK Accounting Standards. They are drawn up on the historical cost accounting basis. These financial statements are presented in Sterling and the functional currency is Sterling.

Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing meets the definition of a public benefit entity under Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes. The address of the registered office is given on Page 1.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with FRS 102 requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates. Further details are provided in the accounting policies for bad debts.

b) Going Concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited and Lancing College Limited boards review the financial information for the charity and consider whether the charity is a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of the accounts.

The school has negative reserves of £2,108k but is fully supported by its parent Lancing College Limited. Lancing College Limited has, whilst not legally binding, confirmed its ability and intention to continue to support the school in meeting its liabilities as they fall due for a period of at least 12 months from the date of signing of these accounts. The inter-company loan balance will not be withdrawn whilst the school is returned to a surplus making position and until it is able to repay the loan.

Having considered all the factors and reviewing the available evidence, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue operating for the foreseeable future and the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

c) Fees and Similar Income

Fees receivable and other educational income are accounted for in the period in which the service is provided. Fees receivable are stated after deducting allowances, scholarships and other remissions by the school, but include contributions received from restricted funds for scholarships, bursaries and other grants. Debts are provided for if not recovered within one term. Estimating amounts to provide against recovery of debts is a matter of judgement.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

d) **Ancillary and Non-Ancillary Trading Income**

Ancillary trading income represents amounts from activities to generate funds within the charitable objects for example school shop sales, coaches to and from school and school trips. Non-ancillary trading income represents amounts from activities not directly related to the charitable objects, for example lettings of school facilities out of term time and rental from spare school buildings. Income from these activities is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the goods are sold or services provided.

e) **Voluntary sources, Grants and Donations**

Voluntary incoming resources are accounted for as and when entitlement arises, the amount can reliably be quantified and the economic benefit is considered probable.

Voluntary income for general purposes is accounted for as unrestricted and is credited to the General Reserve. Where the donor or an appeal has imposed trust law restrictions, voluntary income is credited to the relevant restricted fund and incoming endowments are accounted for as permanent trust capital or expendable trust capital, according to whether the donor intends retention to be permanent or not. Gifts in kind are valued at estimated open market value at the date of gift, in the case of assets for retention or consumption, or at the value to the school in case of donated services or facilities.

f) **Expenditure**

Expenditure is accrued as soon as there is a contractual obligation or a liability is considered probable, discounted to present value for longer term liabilities. Expenditure is allocated to expense headings either on a direct cost basis or apportioned according to time spent. The irrecoverable element of VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates. Bad debts are provided for in accordance with the group bad debt policy.

The cost of refurbishing and converting existing buildings is written-off in the year in which it is incurred except where the useful life has been extended.

g) **Governance costs**

Governance costs include the costs attributable to Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and governors' meetings and reimbursed expenses. Such costs include both direct and allocated support costs.

h) **Pension Costs**

The school participates in the Teachers' Pensions scheme, which is an unfunded government scheme providing benefits based on final pensionable pay. The funds of the scheme are separate from the company, although the charitable company's share of the schemes cannot be identified as the scheme is a multi-employer scheme, and so the pension costs are accounted for as defined contribution schemes. The charitable company also contributes to other defined contribution pension schemes for non-teaching staff.

i) **Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Individual capital items, or projects, with a value greater than £10,000 are capitalised.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value of each asset based on current market prices, over its expected useful life, as follows:

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Leasehold land	- Over the shorter of the economic life of the asset or the life of the lease
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Computer equipment	- 25% on cost
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Fixtures and fittings	- between 4% and 25% on cost
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The company has reviewed its tangible assets, which comprise of leasehold buildings, computer equipment, and furniture and fittings.

Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing exercises judgement in selection of appropriate rates for depreciation of fixed assets, and for matters of impairment.

j) Financial Instruments

Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

k) Fund Accounts

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the directors for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

l) Taxation

Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited is a registered charity and as such is exempt from income tax and corporation tax under the provisions of Section 478 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010. There is no similar exemption for VAT, which is included in expenditure or in the cost of assets as appropriate.

m) Cash flow statement

The cash flows of Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited are included in the consolidated cash flow statement of Lancing College Limited. The company is exempt under the terms of Section 1 of FRS 102 from publishing a cash flow statement.

n) Accounting estimates and judgements

Debts are provided for if not recovered within one term. Estimating amounts to provide against recovery of debts is a matter of judgement. There are no key sources of estimation uncertainty. Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing also exercises judgement in selection of appropriate rates for depreciation of fixed assets, and for matters of impairment.

n) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

o) **Cash**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

p) **Creditors**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

q) **FRS 102 Exemptions**

As a qualifying entity within the meaning of FRS 102, the charitable company has chosen to take advantage in its financial statements of the following disclosure exemptions:

- Section 11 and section 12 - Financial instruments disclosures.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - SCHOOL FEES

	2024	2023
	£	£
The school fees income comprises:		
Gross fees	2,783,736	2,366,274
Less: Total scholarships, bursaries, etc	(308,112)	(289,584)
	<u>2,475,624</u>	<u>2,076,690</u>

Scholarships, bursaries and other awards were paid to 99 pupils (2023: 84 pupils). Within this, means tested bursaries and scholarships totalling £59k were paid to 11 pupils (2023: £86k to 21 pupils).

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - OTHER INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Ancillary income:		
Wraparound care & holiday clubs	28,846	30,244
Entrance and registration fees	2,550	4,895
Extra school care – Learning support and Music	65,452	31,263
	<u>96,848</u>	<u>66,402</u>
Non-ancillary activities:		
Other income	4,978	3,924
	<u>101,826</u>	<u>70,326</u>

4. NET EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net expenditure for the period is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	48,459	34,603
Auditor's remuneration – audit	9,000	6,700
	<u></u>	<u></u>

5. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Total staff costs comprise:		
Wages and salaries	1,284,486	1,250,375
Social security costs	114,735	117,227
Pension contributions	242,059	195,707
	<u>1,641,280</u>	<u>1,563,309</u>

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

5. STAFF COSTS - CONTINUED

Number of employees:

The average monthly number of employees during the period on a headcount basis was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Teaching staff	33	33
Others	16	14
	<u>49</u>	<u>47</u>

One employee was remunerated between £70,001 and £80,000 in the year (2023: One between £90,001 and £100,000).

The aggregate employee benefits of key personnel during the year were £515,921 (2023: £484,979). These key employees are employed by the parent company, Lancing College Limited.

6. DIRECTORS

None of the directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the period (2023: none).

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

7a. ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Staff (Note 5)	Other Costs	Depreciation (Note 9)	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities					
Teaching	1,381,761	69,965	-	1,451,726	1,464,252
Welfare	106,120	85,439	-	191,559	167,304
Premises	63,278	344,876	48,459	456,613	459,629
Support cost of schooling	89,671	107,434	-	197,105	193,471
Grants, awards and prizes	-	210	-	210	318
School charitable expenditure	1,640,830	607,924	48,459	2,297,213	2,284,974
Expenditure from restricted funds	450	-	-	450	-
Total resources expended	<u>1,641,280</u>	<u>607,924</u>	<u>48,459</u>	<u>2,297,663</u>	<u>2,284,974</u>

b. Governance Costs included in support costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Remuneration paid to auditor for audit services	9,000	6,700
Other Governance Costs	198	6,296
	<u>9,198</u>	<u>12,996</u>

8. TAXATION

The company is a registered charity and therefore no liability to taxation arises on its charitable activities.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and Buildings Short Leasehold £	Computer Equipment £	Fittings and Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2023	182,619	141,089	294,581	618,289
Additions	-	-	32,145	32,145
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2024	182,619	141,089	326,726	650,434
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	65,958	101,796	185,384	353,138
Charge for the year	8,214	14,735	25,510	48,459
At 31 August 2024	74,172	116,531	210,894	401,597
Net book value at 31 August 2024	108,447	24,558	115,832	248,837
Net book value at 31 August 2023	116,661	39,293	109,197	265,151

All assets are used for charitable purposes.

Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing Limited has a fixed and floating charge over all the property of the company with Barclays Bank PLC.

10. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Fee debtors	21,561	5,375
Trade debtors	1,438	100
Prepayments and accrued income	23,726	35,313
Other debtors	1,860	4,811
	48,585	45,599

School fee debtors are net of £6,834 (2023: £4,071) provided for doubtful debts.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

11. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	38,758	58,463
Amounts owed to group undertakings	1,104,030	2,120,875
Other creditors	42,704	50,471
Accruals	18,177	10,895
Entrance deposits	47,450	47,000
Deferred income - fees received in advance	823,613	375,873
Finance lease	14,715	14,715
Advance fees	131,856	-
	<u>2,221,303</u>	<u>2,678,292</u>

Deferred income relates to fees received in advance for the forthcoming academic year, £375,873 was released in the year to the Statement of Financial Activities and £823,613 was deferred.

Included within the other creditors is an amount owing to the Teachers' Pension Scheme at the end of the year of £14,780 (2023: £19,610).

12. CREDITORS: Amounts falling after one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Finance lease	7,358	22,073
Advance fees	176,514	-
	<u>183,872</u>	<u>22,073</u>

13. FINANCE LEASE OBLIGATIONS

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due:		
Within 2 to 5 years	-	7,358
Within 1 to 2 years	<u>7,358</u>	<u>14,715</u>
	7,358	22,073
Within 1 year	<u>14,715</u>	<u>14,715</u>
	<u>22,073</u>	<u>36,788</u>

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

14. SHARE CAPITAL

	2024 and 2023 £
Authorised	
100 Ordinary Shares of £1 each	<u>100</u>
 Allotted, called up and fully paid	
100 Ordinary Shares of £1 each	<u>100</u>

The company's shares which carry no right to fixed income, each carry the right to one vote at general meetings of the company.

15. RESTRICTED FUNDS

The income funds of the company include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations held on trust for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Aspire Fund	-	2,075	450	-	1,625
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Restricted Funds	<u> - </u>	<u> 2,075 </u>	<u> 450 </u>	<u> - </u>	<u> 1,625 </u>

In the year the company launched its Aspire Programme aimed at raising ambitions across the school. The funds received a donation of £2,025 from the Trustees of Worthing WOW (charity number 1166203) to start the programme.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

16. ANALYSIS OF NET LIABILITIES BETWEEN FUNDS

The company's net liabilities belong to the various funds as follows:

	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	Long term Liabilities	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds	-	1,625	-	1,625
Unrestricted Funds	248,837	(2,174,343)	(183,872)	(2,109,378)
	<u>248,837</u>	<u>(2,172,718)</u>	<u>(183,872)</u>	<u>(2,107,753)</u>
	Fixed Assets	Net Current Liabilities	Long Term Liabilities	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted Funds	265,151	(2,632,693)	(22,073)	(2,389,615)
	<u>265,151</u>	<u>(2,632,693)</u>	<u>(22,073)</u>	<u>(2,389,615)</u>

17. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	2024 £	2023 £
Opening shareholders' funds	(2,389,615)	(2,251,657)
Net movements in funds	281,862	(137,958)
Closing shareholders' funds	<u>(2,107,753)</u>	<u>(2,389,615)</u>

The shareholders' unrestricted funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the school at the discretion of the Trustees. The funds are currently in deficit but the school has plans to return to a surplus position to reduce this deficit position.

18. TEACHERS' PENSION SCHEME

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The School participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £222,619 (2023: £177,040) and at the year-end £14,780 (2023: £19,974) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by The Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 (as amended) and The Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014 (as amended). Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

LANCING COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL AT WORTHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The employer contribution rate is set by the Secretary of State following scheme valuations undertaken by the Government Actuary's Department. The most recent actuarial valuation of the TPS was prepared as at 31 March 2020 and the Valuation Report was published in October 2023.

Following the McCloud judgement, the remedy proposed that when benefits become payable, eligible members can select to receive them from either the reformed or legacy schemes for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2022. The actuaries have assumed that members are likely to choose the option that provides them with the greater benefits, and in preparing the 2020 valuation has valued the 'greater value' benefits for groups of relevant members.

The employer contribution rate for the TPS is 28.6%, and employers are also required to pay a scheme administration levy of 0.08% giving a total employer contribution rate of 28.68%.

19. RELATED PARTIES AND ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The parent company and controlling party is Lancing College, a company registered in England and Wales and limited by shares. Control is exercised by the parent by virtue of owning 100% of the share capital of Lancing College Preparatory School at Worthing. Lancing College Limited has company registration number 03779985 and charity registration number 1076483. Lancing College's principal activity is the education of girls and boys aged 13 to 18. The registered address of Lancing College Limited is Lancing College, Lancing, West Sussex BN15 0RW.

The directors consider that the ultimate parent undertaking is The Woodard Corporation (Company number 04659710), a registered charity, number 1096270 which is registered in England and Wales. The Woodard Corporation's principal activity is to act as a holding company for various schools, colleges and academies. Control is exercised by the ultimate parent by virtue of Owning 100% of the share capital of Lancing College Limited.

In line with paragraph 33.1A of FRS 102, the company, as a wholly owned subsidiary, is not required to disclose transactions with other wholly owned members of the group. There were no other related party transactions during the year.

The largest group of undertakings for which group accounts are drawn up is that headed by The Woodard Corporation and the smallest is that headed by Lancing College Limited. Copies of these accounts can be obtained from Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ or are available on the Charity Commission website.