

**ANNUAL REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024**



**THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE
COMPANY**

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 08405111

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1157282

Castle View Accounting Ltd
Ground Floor Offices
53 High Street
Arundel
West Sussex
BN18 9AJ

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

CONTENTS

Page 3	Legal & Administrative Information
Pages 4 to 11	Report of the Directors'
Page 12	Statement of Financial Activities
Page 13	Balance Sheet
Pages 14 to 23	Notes to the Financial Statements
Page 24	Independent Examiner's Report

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1157282

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 08405111

DATE OF INCORPORATION 15th February 2013

START OF FINANCIAL YEAR 1st September 2023

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR 31st August 2024

DIRECTORS AT 31ST AUGUST 2024
Susan Jane Fletcher
Susan Sandle
Fiona Mallin-Robinson
Toyin Okitikpi
Denise Rawls
Nicholas Willoughby Stuart

GOVERNING DOCUMENT Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 15th February 2013

OBJECTS

To advance education for the public benefit by the promotion of the Arts, in particular but not exclusively the Art of Drama.

REGISTERED ADDRESS
7th Floor
The Dutch House
307-308 High Holborn
London
WC1V 7LL

PRIMARY BANKERS
Barclays Bank Plc
Camden Town Branch
193 Camden High Street
London
NW1 7PJ

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS
Castle View Accounting Ltd
Ground Floor Offices
53 High Street
Arundel
West Sussex
BN18 9AJ

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS'
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

The Trustees, who are Directors for the purposes of Company Law, present the statutory reporting accounts of the Primary Shakespeare Company (PSC) for the year ended 31st August 2024. The report has been prepared in accordance with Part VIII of the Charity Act 2011 and public benefit reporting requirements and equates to a Director's report set out under the Companies Act 2011.



A Foreword from our Board of Trustees

2023-2024 marked the beginning of our 15th Anniversary Year and, as such, it was an exceptional year for The Primary Shakespeare Company. Exceptionally successful, as we further developed our specialist work for children with special educational needs and disabilities, and extended our Annual Festival Programme to more schools across London than ever before. Exceptionally exciting, as we launched our new Musical Theatre strand with its initial pilot project. And exceptionally busy, as our small executive team planned a programme of 15th Anniversary celebrations and fundraising, whilst continuing to deliver our work to the highest standard.

It was back in 2009 that The Primary Shakespeare Company (PSC) delivered its first project in Camden, when it was founded by our Directors Neil Carter and Luke Hollowell-Williams. Since then, PSC has broadened its reach, developing its Shakespeare Festival programmes every year, benefiting over 33,000 children since its inception. We have seen first-hand the positive impact that sustainable arts-based education has on children - because children learn best when engaged, creative and playful, and PSC delivers the perfect environment for that learning to take place.

Our Annual programme employs teams of arts professionals whose deep expertise spans both education and the performing arts equally. We work hard to foster a sense of creative community – amongst the children and schools we work with, our network of skilled teachers and head teachers, and with our talented arts professionals: directors, actors, composers, musicians and choreographers. Our executive team of Directors, comprising Neil Carter, Luke Hollowell-Williams, and Kirsty McCreadie, lead the charity not only with great energy and commitment, but also with a genuine understanding of what's needed to support the education of every single child that we work with.

"The progress witnessed by the teacher and parents was excellent. All parents commented that they had never seen their child so engaged and involved. They were really impressed with the high standard of learning and the enriched oracy. Children, who some may have had perceptions of 'low ability', were producing in depth sustained learning both at home and at school." (Teacher survey 2023)

We take real delight in receiving such feedback and seeing these results for the children and schools participating in PSC's programmes. As we begin to celebrate our birthday year, we'd like to thank everyone who has worked with us and supported us in 2023-24, and across all our 15 years.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued) **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024**

Aims and Objectives

The aim of the charity is to work with children in primary and special schools to raise pupil achievement and attainment by engaging with Shakespeare across the curriculum.

Since 2009, The Primary Shakespeare Company (PSC) has been sending theatre practitioners into primary schools, investigating and performing Shakespeare's plays and language with teachers and their pupils. In addition, we have developed work with Special Schools, both in our main festival programme and as bespoke whole school projects. Our experience illustrates the positive impact that sustainable arts-based education has on children – on their attainment across the whole curriculum (especially in literacy), confidence and attitude to learning.

PSC's principle objectives are:

- To consolidate the work that the charity has done in Primary and Special schools so that the arts are fully embedded as a core part of the whole school curriculum.
- To develop the skills of teachers through our programme of training and to build teachers' involvement with the PSC to embed the Arts in Primary and Special education.
- To develop the skills of theatre practitioners and develop their training so that they can work effectively with children and their teachers.
- To build financial security for the charity by combining paid-for services to schools with fund-raising from foundations, individual donations and special events.
- To promote the work of the charity to showcase the value of an Arts-based curriculum mediated through Shakespeare as a means of raising pupil attainment.
- To assess our work continually and to develop methods of evaluating outcomes.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Trustees meets at least 4 times a year with the Artistic and Programme Directors and the charity's Administration and Development Director, who are accountable to the Board for the day-to-day running of the charity. The Trustees are responsible for:

- Controlling the administration of the charity.
- Agreeing the strategic aims, objectives and direction of the charity.
- Ensuring the identification of risks and managing those risks.
- Ensuring that the income of the charity is applied as set out in its governing documents.

The charity's Directors not only have a background as performing arts professionals, they also have a combined 50 years of experience as qualified teachers. This specialist knowledge informs our child-centred planning: every single decision we make is based on what we know works in the classroom.

This year Primary Shakespeare Company focussed on developing our staff resource, formalising the roles of our pool of specialist arts practitioners, including Jeremy Harrison as Special Schools Advisor and Tim Yealland MBE for the Opera Project.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

All members of the Board of Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. This year we welcomed Susan Lawrence, an experienced Head Teacher and education specialist, to The Board of Trustees, which now comprises of 7 members. It was agreed that no further Board recruitment was needed this year.

Our AGM was held in March, at the charity's offices: 7th Floor, The Dutch House on High Holborn, London.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

Our Patrons and Volunteers

Primary Shakespeare Company is proud to have the support of our Patrons – leaders in the fields of theatre and education – who volunteer their time to help us raise awareness of, and funds for, the charity. Our current Patrons are Hugh Bonneville, Baroness Estelle Morris of Yardley, Billie Piper and Adrian Lester OBE. This year, we were saddened at the loss of our long-standing Patron and supporter Eric Bolton CB MA. Eric had been one of our Patrons since the charity's inaugural year in 2013. He will be much missed, and we send our sincere condolences to his family.

Our volunteer Patrons have supported the charity in several ways across the year: featuring in films about the charity that are on our website and supporting our fundraising efforts as we plan for our 15th Anniversary year ahead.

Baroness Estelle Morris of Yardley hosted PSC's annual prize giving ceremony at the House of Lords, recognising outstanding work and achievement from our participating schools. This annual event is a highlight of the PSC calendar, providing a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the work of children and their schools and teachers and we are grateful to Estelle for her support of our Annie Williams Prize Awards event (details of this year's winners are below).

Safeguarding and Risk Management

The safety and welfare of the children and young people for whom we provide activities is paramount. In line with the Children Act 1989, we are committed to providing safe, participatory and creative opportunities for all the children who take part in PSC's programmes. Safeguarding of children to participate in our programmes is secured through the implementation of the charity's Child Protection Policy, which is reviewed annually. This policy and related procedures are for the use of all individuals, whether they are directly employed by Primary Shakespeare Company, employed as contractors on behalf of PSC or are volunteers. All those employed by the PSC are required to have an up to date, enhanced DBS certificate.

The Trustees have reviewed and identified the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate and manage the risks.

One risk that PSC keeps under close review is the significant budgetary pressures that schools currently face. Our aim is to understand such pressures and ensure we maximise accessibility to our programme by keeping our programmes affordable for schools, so that cost is not a barrier to participation.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit in reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. They consider that the PSC's work is demonstrably for the public benefit, with all our charitable activities being delivered in the United Kingdom.

All of PSC's main activities contribute to the accessibility, delivery and promotion of an Arts-based curriculum for Primary and Special school pupils, raising attainment and achievement through engagement with Shakespeare through the performing arts. Our work with Special Schools is both in our main Shakespeare Festival programme and as bespoke, whole school projects.

This year, 2370 pupils, aged between 7-18 years old took part in our Festival programmes: 1670 children took part in our theatre project, 150 in our dance project, 130 were involved in our opera project, 120 took part in our new musical theatre project and 300 in our Wyvern project. We worked across 10 inner London boroughs, with a total of 69 participating Primary school classes and 4 Special Schools, including Wyvern Special School in Kent.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

Activities for the Year

Activities for the Year

PSC's artists are inspiring, creative forces bringing a cultural world into our partner schools - their superpower is in unlocking each child's unique creative force. We deliberately set difficult challenges: write an opera, perform a Shakespeare play, dance for an audience of 200. In succeeding at these difficult tasks, children experience a profound sense of achievement with many teachers describing a big shift in engagement with learning.

Schools report this effect time and time again (and they do; our retention rate is just over 95% over the 15 years that PSC has been operating).

We are proud to have introduced primary school children to a hugely rich and diverse Shakespeare repertoire. From our very first play in 2009, Macbeth, to our more recent Festivals: the famously tragic Romeo and Juliet (2021) and romantic comedy, Twelfth Night (2023) – children actively engage with the themes and ideas the plays present. This year our chosen play was Julius Caesar.

We toured our specially adapted version of the play to every school participating in the festival project. Our Programme Director, Neil Carter, worked with Actor Musician MA students from Rose Bruford to create a bespoke, musically based Julius Caesar performance suitable for 7-11 year olds. To kickstart the Festival programme the show toured to all participating classes so that children's first experience of the play, and its themes, was watching a carefully conceived 40-minute version of the story.

In addition, we worked with Theatre for Young Audience MA students, alongside other specialist practitioners, to create a Sensory Show specifically designed to tour to the special educational needs schools we work with. Children and teachers alike loved the result, and we then filmed a version of this performance which we uploaded to our website so that it could be used as a classroom resources.

We ran a total of 14 Julius Caesar Festivals, including 11 Theatre Festivals, 1 Opera Festival, 1 Dance Festival and new Musical Theatre Festival. Children from mainstream and SEN primary schools worked with our arts professionals - directors, choreographers, musicians, composers, and writers - to devise their own performances based on Julius Caesar. Each school performed their work in our Festivals, alongside other participating schools from their Borough. These Festival performances were presented at local theatres for the local schools' communities. Working with extraordinary creativity and enthusiasm, the children produced outstanding pieces of theatre, dance, musical theatre, and opera, as well as fantastic classroom work.

Whilst the work delivered in schools and classrooms successfully drives educational attainment, it is the children's performances in the festivals that embody their hard work and achievement, creating lasting memories for them and their families. Our Julius Caesar Festivals saw standing ovations from every audience as they celebrated what the children had created - performances of high artistic value. The power of applause is always undeniable – in that moment the children know that they have done something remarkable, and it is a feeling that remains with them for years to come.

We know this not just because we see it, but because teachers tell us about the effect that PSC performances have:
“It is an incredible experience which unites children, teacher, parents and wider community. I think every year group should have the chance to participate and explore the arts”. (Westminster teacher Julius Caesar Theatre Project, July 2024)

“This mix of the arts is irresistible to our pupils; many of whom are non-verbal, preverbal or in the early development of verbal communication, eliciting the most beautiful impactful responses & leaving a long-lasting legacy of the power of the arts” (Chantal Cook, Head of Expressive Arts, Riverside School, Kent)

PSC's work with Special Schools continues to be a cornerstone of our delivery, creating fully inclusive participatory arts projects involving children with a range of complex disabilities. This is an ever-growing strand of our work, where we recognize there is significant need.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

Our work with Wyvern Special School in Kent, is an entirely bespoke, whole-school project, tailored to the diverse needs of the students. This year it spanned across a whole term and worked with children with profound and multiple learning disabilities to culminate in a week of showcases, including a promenade performance with a real-life market and a joint performance with children from a local mainstream school, Repton Manor. The project was an overwhelming success.

Our partnership with Rose Bruford continued and, as well as producing our mainstream storytelling show, also created an immersive, sensory storytelling appropriate for children with special needs.

Other activities included:

- Extended training for our theatre practitioners, running a second day of training for those new to PSC.
- New, separate sessions for choreographers working on our dance project.
- Our largest teacher inset sessions ever, welcoming 72 teachers to PSC's training days held in February.

Evaluation

Success, for us, is having a positive effect on a child's ability to learn, achieve and attain. We are committed to our own continuous improvement and use evaluation of our work to measure the impact of PSC's programmes.

We have several ways of harvesting information about the impact of our projects.

- All teachers participating are asked to complete an annual survey looking at all aspects of the project.
- Teachers complete a feedback form showing which resources have proved most popular.
- We consult directly with Headteachers to review the efficacy of our work and to inform future strategy.
- Arts Practitioners attend feedback sessions covering all aspects of the delivery of the project and we incorporate learnings into future planning.

Key Statistics from our 2023-2024 annual evaluation survey:

- 100% respondents said they'd do the project again.
- 100% of respondents said the project had a noticeable impact on the children in their class.
- 86% of respondents said the project had an impact on the way they teach.

Annie Williams Prizes

2024 marked the 10th year of the Annie Williams Awards, funded by the John Lyon's Charity. This year, we were thrilled to once again be invited to hold the prize-giving ceremony at the House of Lords, hosted by our Patron, Baroness Estelle Morris of Yardley, on Thursday 26 September 2024.

The ceremony is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the work that the children have achieved, and share learnings between teachers, pupils and arts practitioners. The children of each of the winning schools present a speech at The House of Lords about their experiences of the Primary Shakespeare Company.

In 2023/24, the winners were:

- The Annie Williams Prize: Grange Primary School (London Borough of Ealing).
- The Annie Williams Ensemble Prize: Lady Margaret Primary School (London Borough of Ealing).
- The Annie Williams Attainment and Achievement: Kingsbury Green Primary School (London Borough of Brent).
- The Excellence in Engagement Prize: Stanhope Primary School (London Borough of Ealing).

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

PRIZE	CRITERIA
The Annie Williams Prize £600 towards a theatre trip	Awarded for a class' <u>outstanding immersion</u> in the play and curriculum Work and engagement across the curriculum, classroom/school displays, demonstrating the impact on the teacher, wider school community as well as the class
The Annie Williams Ensemble Prize £600 towards a theatre trip	Awarded for a class' <u>collaborative</u> approach across the project. Class working together, this could be in workshops/final performance/supporting each other in curriculum work/creating displays/noticing that they've grown together as a class/team during the project
The Annie Williams Attainment and Achievement Prize £400 towards a theatre trip	Awarded for a class where the teacher has noticed significant increase in an individual, group or class' attainment and achievement during the project. Work and engagement across the curriculum, classroom/school displays/relationships. Children's journey across the project (e.g. in the past a school noticed specifically how the project had brought the confidence out in very quiet/shy girls)
Primary Shakespeare Excellence in Engagement Prize £300 towards a theatre trip	Awarded for a class where the teacher has noticed great engagement across the project and curriculum
Solo prize x 2 £40 book token	Awarded to an individual whose teacher/workshop practitioner have identified Engagement in the project/growing/becoming more enthused and engaged in school/positive change in attitude/extra curricula work/ self-motivation etc
School Submissions	All classes who submit a presentation will receive an individualised school canvas to show recognition of engagement in the project

PSC's Annual prize-giving ceremony is named in memory of the Head Teacher, Annie Williams, whose passion for using the Arts, particularly drama, to inspire and engage young children helped form The Primary Shakespeare Company. Annie was our first champion.

Resources

As a small charity, we are reliant on philanthropic support and our ongoing programme of fundraising continues to attract major donors and individual support alike. This is vital to our programme development. This year, for the first time, PSC took part in 'The Big Give' exceeding our campaign target of £10,000. This was a successful new stream of income for us that we hope to repeat in future years.

The value of support from our long-term partners John Lyon's Charity, the Wellington Foundation, the Thompson Family Trust, Mercers' Company and Garfield Weston cannot be underestimated. We have also received generous funding from the Wingate Foundation as well as from other foundations and private donors. We are grateful to everyone who generously supports the charity's work.

We are grateful to GMS Estates and Avire, for providing PSC with a reduced office rent for our head office on High Holborn, where we only need cover the costs of utilities.

Multi-year funding continues to provide us with valuable predictability to assist our forward planning. At the end of the 2023-24 financial year, the charity held a total of £165,601 in unrestricted funds and £37,543 in restricted funds.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

Pricing Policy

Primary Shakespeare Company has a commitment to accessible pricing, and we prioritise working with schools with demonstrable need in areas of deprivation. All the projects we deliver for schools are heavily subsidised by our funders. In 2023/24, this meant that schools paid just one third of the actual cost of the Festivals projects, allowing over 45 schools to participate.

Reserves

In the light of the risks identified, and the changeable economic climate, the Trustees have agreed to retain reserves that equate to at least 6 months of operating costs. The balance of any surplus funds is held in fixed term bonds and in the charity's savings account. These funds may be deployed as necessary and agreed by the Board, in support of our charitable objects and a continuation of sufficient staffing. Within the reserves, the Trustees have also designated £85,000 as a development and spaces fund for costs associated with projects and contribute to the development of PSC's practice and for rental of spaces of all kinds. In this way, we can maintain the high standard of delivery and development of the charity's work that PSC is renowned for.

Plans for Future Years

The Trustees annually review our performance against our 5-year Strategic Plan, with PSC's next 5-year planning cycle commencing in 2025.

Key priorities for the next five years have been highlighted as follows:

- Deepening our Special Schools provision.
- Annual Festival Programme to remain accessible and affordable for our partner schools.
- Create and deliver 'best-in-class' teacher training, to support whole schools in using the arts to engage children right across the curriculum.
- Develop training to support education professionals working with SEND children in mainstream settings.

We are also committed to producing outstanding educational resources by and for teachers and, next year (24/25), we will again be producing a graphic novel version of the text, that proved so popular this year. As always, the decisions that we make, and the programmes we offer, will be informed by our team's ongoing experiences as teachers and educators.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities:

The Charities Act and the Companies Act require the Board of Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to :-

- a) Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business;
- d) State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

The Directors are also responsible for the contents of the Directors' report, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the Directors' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

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

I approve the attached statement of financial activities and balance sheet for the year ended 31st August 2024 and confirm that I have made available all information necessary for its preparation.

Approved by the Directors on the 14 MARCH 2025

Signed on their behalf by Director 

Printed Name: FIONA MALLIN-ROBINSON

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023/24 £	TOTAL 2022/23 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds						
Donations, Grants & Legacies	3a	77,203	-	122,500	199,703	266,573
Investment Income	3b	964	-	-	964	2,084
Activities for Generating Funds	3c	61,815	-	-	61,815	59,515
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		139,982	-	122,500	262,482	328,172
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Cost of Generating Funds						
Charitable Activities	4a	226,677	-	122,819	349,496	313,207
Governance Costs	4b	1,740	-	-	1,740	1,675
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		228,417	-	122,819	351,236	314,882
NET INCOMING/ (OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(88,435)	-	(319)	(88,754)	13,290
Balance Brought Forward		254,061	-	37,837	291,898	278,608
Transfer Between Funds	5 & 6	(85,025)	85,000	25	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		80,601	85,000	37,543	203,144	291,898

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 31-Aug-24 £	TOTAL 31-Aug-23 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	2	998	-	998	1,331
Current Assets					
Debtors & Prepayments	8	-	-	-	-
Cash at Bank and in Hand	7	166,344	37,543	203,887	292,242
Total Current Assets		166,344	37,543	203,887	292,242
Creditors: Amounts due within one year	9	1,740	-	1,740	1,675
NET CURRENT ASSETS		164,604	37,543	202,147	290,567
Creditors: Amounts falling due in more than one year	10	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS less current liabilities		165,601	37,543	203,144	291,898
NET ASSETS		165,601	37,543	203,144	291,898
Funds of the Charity					
General Funds		80,601	-	80,601	254,061
Designated Funds	6	85,000	-	85,000	-
Restricted Funds	5	-	37,543	37,543	37,837
Total Funds		165,601	37,543	203,144	291,898

Directors' Responsibilities:

The Directors are satisfied that for the year ended on 31st August 2024 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that no member or members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act. However, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an Independent Examiner whose report appears on page 24.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for ensuring that the company keeps proper accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit and loss for the 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 accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

Approved by the Directors on the 14 MARCH 2025

Signed on their behalf by Director Fiona Mallin

Printed Name: FIONA MALLIN-ROBINSON

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation & Assessment of Going Concern

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015) (Second Edition, effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Assessment of Going Concern

Preparation of the accounts is on a going concern basis. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Incoming Resources

Recognition of Incoming Resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the Directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

Incoming Resources with Related Expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and Donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax Reclaims on Donations and Gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA in the same financial period as the gift to which they relate.

Contractual Income and Performance Related Grants

This is only included in the SOFA once the related goods or services has been delivered.

Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Donated Services and Facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Directors' annual report.

Investment Income

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Expenditure and Liabilities

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Governance Costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of the Directors' meetings and cost of any legal advice to Directors on governance or constitutional matters.

Changes in Accounting Policies and Previous Accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies (variation rules and methods of accounting) since last year, and no changes to the previous accounts.

Grants Payable without Performance Conditions

These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to a grant which remain in control of the charity.

Unrestricted Funds

These funds can be used for the general objectives of the charity as set out in the trustees report. The movements of the unrestricted funds are given in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Designated Funds

These funds are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for particular purposes or projects.

Restricted Funds

These funds are where the donor has specified a purpose for the donation made. These restrictions often arise as a result of appeals for special offerings for specific purposes.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are accounted for as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Legal Status of the Charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. 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.

Investments

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at Directors' best estimate of market value.

Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation Expense

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives. The rates applied per annum are as follows:

Equipment Cost	25% - Reducing Balance Basis
Fixtures and Fittings	25% - Reducing Balance Basis

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

2. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

		Equipment Cost £	Fixtures & Fittings £	TOTAL 2023/24 £
Cost	01-Sep-23	3,312	2,366	5,678
Additions		-	-	-
Cost at	31-Aug-24	<u>3,312</u>	<u>2,366</u>	<u>5,678</u>
Depreciation	01-Sep-23	2,536	1,812	4,348
Charge		194	139	333
Depreciation at	31-Aug-24	<u>2,730</u>	<u>1,951</u>	<u>4,681</u>
Net Book Value	31-Aug-24	<u>582</u>	<u>416</u>	<u>998</u>
Net Book Value	31-Aug-23	<u>776</u>	<u>555</u>	<u>1,331</u>

The annual commitments under non-cancelling operating leases and capital commitments are as follows:
31st August 2024 : None
31st August 2023 : None

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

3. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023/24 £	TOTAL 2022/23 £
a) Donations, Grants & Legacies						
Gift Aid		6,433	-	-	6,433	-
Gifts & Donations		6,278	-	-	6,278	15,073
Grants Received	5	64,491	-	122,500	186,991	251,500
		77,203	-	122,500	199,703	266,573
b) Investment Income						
Interest		964	-	-	964	2,084
		964	-	-	964	2,084
c) Activities for Generating Funds						
Fees Received		61,815	-	-	61,815	59,515
		61,815	-	-	61,815	59,515

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

4. RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023/24 £	TOTAL 2022/23 £
a) Charitable Activities						
Administrative Expenses		993	-	-	993	836
Advertising & Publicity		1,984	-	-	1,984	-
Artistic & Programme Directors Fees		11,828	-	58,588	70,416	72,848
Bank Charges		103	-	-	103	-
Depreciation Expenses		333	-	-	333	444
Equipment Costs		1,478	-	-	1,478	1,478
Fundraising Costs		18,544	-	-	18,544	1,035
Insurance Costs		612	-	-	612	276
Ks2 Opera Project		675	-	14,923	15,598	33,144
Office Costs		1,980	-	-	1,980	-
Photography Costs		3,240	-	-	3,240	2,200
Prizes & Awards		890	-	-	890	1,300
Projects Costs		82,631	-	37,718	120,349	108,591
Rent & Rates		12,752	-	-	12,752	12,285
Special Needs Project		13,484	-	6,468	19,952	26,165
Staff Costs		67,371	-	1,891	69,262	42,155
Sundry Expenses		1,528	-	-	1,528	107
Touring Costs		3,510	-	3,231	6,741	7,172
Training Costs		656	-	-	656	1,388
Utility Costs		770	-	-	770	-
Website Costs		1,315	-	-	1,315	1,783
		226,677	-	122,819	349,496	313,207

b) Governance Costs

Independent Examiners Fee	9	1,740	-	-	1,740	1,675
		1,740	-	-	1,740	1,675

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

5. RESTRICTED FUNDS

CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR

	Balance 01-Sep-23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-24 £
The Wingate Foundation	13	-	-	-	13
Wellington Management Fund	3,688	40,000	40,066	-	3,622
JLC Main Grant Fund	-	60,000	60,025	25	-
St James Place	9	-	-	-	9
City Bridge Academy	1,144	-	-	-	1,144
JLC Exceptional Grant Fund	9,998	-	-	-	9,998
The Mercers Company Trustee to The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington	22,985	22,500	22,728	-	22,757
	37,837	122,500	122,819	25	37,543

PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR

	Balance 01-Sep-22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-23 £
The Wingate Foundation	13	-	-	-	13
Wellington Management Fund	3,817	60,000	60,129	-	3,688
JLC Main Grant Fund	-	72,000	72,002	2	-
St James Place	9	-	-	-	9
City Bridge Academy	1,144	-	-	-	1,144
JLC Exceptional Grant Fund	9,998	-	-	-	9,998
The Mercers Company Trustee to The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington	23,016	30,000	30,031	-	22,985
	37,997	162,000	162,162	2	37,837

The Restricted Funds held are wholly represented by the Charity's Cash Reserves and are to be expended as specified above.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

6. DESIGNATED FUNDS

CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR

	Balance 01-Sep-23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-24 £
Development & Spaces Fund	-	-	-	85,000	85,000
	-	-	-	85,000	85,000

Development & Spaces Fund: For costs associated with projects that contribute to the ongoing and future development of PSC's practice and for rental of spaces of all kinds required for the delivery of the charity's operations.

The Designated Funds held are wholly represented by the Charity's Cash Reserves and are to be expended on particular purposes or projects as specified by the Trustees.

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

7. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	TOTAL 31-Aug-24 £	TOTAL 31-Aug-23 £
Cash at Bank and in Hand	166,344	37,543	203,887	292,242
	166,344	37,543	203,887	292,242

8. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	TOTAL 31-Aug-24 £	TOTAL 31-Aug-23 £
Sundry Debtors	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

9. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	TOTAL 31-Aug-24 £	TOTAL 31-Aug-23 £
Independent Examiners Fee	1,740	-	1,740	1,675
	1,740	-	1,740	1,675

10. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

The Charity held no long term liabilities during this or the previous financial year.

11. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 31-Aug-24 £	TOTAL 31-Aug-23 £
Fixed Asset Investments	998	-	998	1,331
Net Current Assets	164,604	37,543	202,147	290,567
Long Term Liabilities	-	-	-	-
	165,601	37,543	203,144	291,898

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

12. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT ON CAPITAL AND RESERVES

The Company is Limited by Guarantee (08405111) and is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission (1157282) and does not have a Share capital and has no income subject to Corporation Tax.

	TOTAL 2023/24 £	TOTAL 2022/23 £
Profit / (Deficit) for the financial year	(88,754)	13,290
Other Recognised Gains	-	-
	<u>(88,754)</u>	<u>13,290</u>
Balance Brought Forward	291,898	278,608
Closing Funds at 31st August 2024	<u><u>203,144</u></u>	<u><u>291,898</u></u>

13. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	TOTAL 2023/24 £	TOTAL 2022/23 £
Gross Wages, Salaries & Fees	134,685	112,925
Employer's National Insurance Costs	3,794	1,178
Pension Contributions	1,200	900
	<u><u>139,678</u></u>	<u><u>115,003</u></u>

Employees who were engaged in each of the following activities:

	TOTAL 2023/24	TOTAL 2022/23
Charitable Activities	4	3

The Charity operate a PAYE Scheme to pay all employed members of staff. The Charity also employs members of staff on a Self-Employed basis and is not liable for their Income Tax and National Insurance payments. No members of staff received emoluments of over £60,000. (2022/23:None)

THE PRIMARY SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS' (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

14. DIRECTORS AND OTHER RELATED PARTIES

No payments were made to Directors or any persons connected with them during this financial period. No material transaction took place between the organisation and a Director or any person connected with them. (2022/23:None)

15. RISK ASSESSMENT

The Directors actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

16. RESERVES POLICY

In the light of the heightened risks identified, the Trustees have decided to retain reserves that equate to at least 6 months of operating costs. The balance of any surplus funds is held in 1-year fixed term bonds and in the charity's savings account to be deployed in support of the charity's projects and a continuation of the Development and Administrative post, which has played a crucial role in the growth of the charity's work.

17. PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Charity acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the charity has achieved this are provided in the Trustees report. The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees/ members of The Primary Shakespeare Company on the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024 set out on pages 12 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees are satisfied that the audit requirement of Section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that there is no requirement in the governing document or constitution of the Charity for the conducting of an audit. As a consequence, the trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

I conducted my examination in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales in relation to the conducting of an independent examination, referred to above. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and of the accounting systems employed by the Charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of the Charities legislation and that the financial statements comply with the SORP, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtain written assurances from the trustees of all material matters.

Independent examiner's statement

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Accounting Technicians.

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

have not been met; or

- 2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

K. Collaku MAAT
Castle View Accounting Ltd
Ground Floor Offices
53 High Street
Arundel
West Sussex
BN18 9AJ



Date: 24th March 2025