

École des Copains

Chairman's Report – Academic Year: Sept 2024 – Jul 2025

Rachel Wallis
October 2025

Introduction and Background

École des Copains (EdC) was founded in 2016 to promote the French language and francophone culture amongst bilingual families. We are proud to be a community where the practice of French is part of family life and where children can deepen understanding of their cultural francophone heritage.

The Academic Year 2024/2025

This year has been one of **consolidation and steady progress**. Pupil numbers continue to be a challenge: we began the year with around 90 pupils, lost a few along the way, and regained roughly the same number, finishing the year largely stable.

Despite these fluctuations, the commitment of our teaching team and volunteers has ensured that the academic quality and richness of our provision have not only been maintained but have continued to grow.

Teaching Highlights

We have built upon the strong foundations laid in previous years. This year's particular focus has been on consolidating reading skills by blending phonics and syllabic methods, aligning more closely with English academic reading goals while preserving the richness of French linguistic approaches.

The result has marked improvements in confidence and fluency among our youngest readers. Teachers have noted a visible increase in enthusiasm for reading and a growing sense of achievement amongst children.

Regular class observations have again taken place, enabling us to provide constructive feedback and support to our teachers, while also ensuring a consistent and high-quality approach across all levels.

Events and Community

EdC once again brought the community together with a series of much-loved events, including our Galette des Rois celebration, Easter egg hunt, and Summer picnic. Each occasion was an opportunity to celebrate culture, language, and community spirit, while also raising vital funds for the school.

We were delighted to host a puppet show, "Le Grand Méchant Renard," performed by Cécile Hurbault on 7 June 2025. Organised through the Parapluie FLAM network of Saturday French schools, the event brought families together for an afternoon of theatre, laughter, and community spirit.

The Summer picnic was appreciated by so many who were with us, and it was lovely sharing food and chats within our community. The Tonton Gilles market-style sale has also been a great success and will continue into next year to keep our gourmands' tastebuds happy.

Teaching Team

At the heart of EdC are our dedicated teachers, who week after week bring energy, passion, and creativity to their classrooms. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to:

- Lucy Zaug
- Virginie Moore
- Olivia Locicero
- Alex Chammings
- Alexia Kirk
- Bérengère Mauduit
- Jo Adams
- Juliana Hernandez
- Leida Ouegnimaoua
- Hélène Stevens (also serving as our Curriculum Lead)
- Israël Togoh
- Jacqui Nunes

Our teaching assistants, whose renewed dedication and unwavering support are invaluable to our teachers and children:

- Stéphanie Vilault
- Ella Carmarans
- Nadia Duros

At the same time, we bid farewell to **Jo, Stéphanie, Nadia** and **Ella**, who between them have contributed much to our teaching and community life. We are sorry to say goodbye to **Juliana Hernandez** who has been with us for many years, but we are delighted to welcome **Flavie Rafournies** as a member of the teaching team.

Recognition and Thanks

I would like to recognise the tireless work of:

- Our librarian, Sophiann, who continued to inspire a love of reading amongst our pupils.
 - A special thank you to our reading angels, who helped our young readers gain confidence, improve their pronunciation, and believe in their ability to succeed in their reading development. Special thanks to Nadia Breen, who has efficiently coordinated our reading angels. Please let contact@ecoledescopains.com know if you would like to be part of our angels.
 - Our administrator, **Koko**, whose efficiency and generosity of time keep EdC running smoothly behind the scenes.
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Trustees and Committee

The trustees continue to provide vital support in governance, compliance, and organisation of key events. Their roles often take place out of sight, but their impact is deeply felt.

- I (Rachel Wallis) have helped coordinate our very capable team. I have two children attending EdC: Sophie in Flavie's class and Louis in Alex's class. I am happy to re-present my candidacy for Chair for this academic year.
- **Adrien Landreau** is Treasurer. His two daughters are EdC alumni, and he is happy to re-present his candidacy as Treasurer this year.
- **Aurélien Dubot** was elected Secretary last year. He has now stepped down from that role but will remain with EdC as a generalist trustee.
- **Gail Carmarans** and **Aurélié Ander** have stepped down as trustees. Both have been generous with their time and energy, and we are deeply grateful for their service.

Looking ahead, we warmly invite further candidates to join the trustees' team, to ensure that new perspectives, skills, and ideas continue to enrich the life of the school.

School Community and Outlook

In 2024/25, our community included around 73 families, with approximately 90 pupils attending across our eleven classes, including our early years' group.

While enrollment remains an ongoing challenge, our stability this year gives us confidence to build further in the year ahead.

Fundraising, Donations & Grants

We raised **£2,659** this year thanks to the generosity of our community through the Tonton Gilles, family donations at Easter and the galette event, and the book fair.

As in previous years, bursaries remain available for families who need additional financial support. These are renewable annually to ensure continued assistance to those who need it most.

Looking ahead

The 2025/2026 academic year is expected to be very similar in terms of overall student numbers.

We note a reduction in enrolments among the 3 - 6 age group, balanced by an increase in under-3s, which is a positive indicator for the school's future pipeline.

Thanks to the dedication of our teachers, assistants, trustees, volunteers, and families, EdC continues to be a thriving community where French language and francophone culture are celebrated and sustained.

Rachel Wallis
Chair

Charity Name Ecole des Copains			Charity No (if any)		1167503		CC39a
Annual accounts for the period							
Period start date	1-Aug-24	To	Period end date	31-Jul-25			

Section A Statement of financial activities

Descriptions by natural category	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)						
		-	-	-	-	-
Donations, legacies and Grants		2,230	-	-	2,230	479
Income resources from charitable activities		53,730	-	-	53,730	47,799
Donations adjust from previous years		-	-	-	-	-
Other income		429	-	-	429	6,965
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
Total incoming resources	S01	56,389	-	-	56,389	55,244
Resources expended (Notes 4-7)						
		-	-	-	-	-
Cost of charitable activities		35,282	-	-	35,282	30,005
Governance cost management and administration cost		23,030	-	-	23,030	6,961
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
Total resources expended	S02	58,312	-	-	58,312	36,966
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers	S03	- 1,923	-	-	- 1,923	18,278
Gross transfers between funds	S04	-	-	-	-	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)	S05	- 1,923	-	-	- 1,923	18,278
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S06	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on investment assets	S07	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	S08	- 1,923	-	-	- 1,923	18,278
Total funds brought forward	S09	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward	S10	- 1,923	-	-	- 1,923	18,278

Section B Balance sheet

			Total this year £ F01	Total last year £ F02
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets (Note 8)	B01		-	-
	B02		-	-
Investments (Note 9)	B03		-	-
Total fixed assets	B04		-	-
Current assets				
Stock and work in progress	B05		-	-
Debtors (Note 10)	B06		-	-
(Short term) investments	B07		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	B08		17,540	19,465
Total current assets	B09		17,540	19,465
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 11)	B10		-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	B11		17,540	19,465
Total assets less current liabilities	B12		17,540	19,465
(Note 11)	B13		-	-
Provisions for liabilities and charges	B14		-	-
Net assets	B15		17,540	19,465
Funds of the Charity				
Unrestricted funds	B16		17,540	19,465
Designated funds	B17			
Total unrestricted funds			17,540	19,465
Restricted income funds (Note 12)	B18		-	-
Endowment funds (Note 12)	B19		-	-
Total funds	B20		17,540	19,465

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Date of approval

Consolidating in this column remains in protected state. The protection can be removed from the tools menu

Note 1 Basis of preparation

This section should be completed by all charities.

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with:

- Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005);
- and with*

ü

 Accounting Standards;
- or

 Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Enterprises (FRSSE);
- and with the Charities Act.

[** except for the following].

Give details in this box if a different standard has been followed.

* -Tick as appropriate:

- if all relevant disclosures shown in the pack have been given then please tick "Accounting Standards";
- if disclosures completed in these accounts have been restricted to those required by the FRSSE, then please tick
- ** - If no departures from the chosen standards have been made then delete these words; otherwise give details of any changes in the boxes

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year (§ except for the following).

Give details in this box of any material changes that have been made.

§ if no changes have been made to accounting policies then delete these words.

1.3 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years (§§ except for the following).

Give details in this box of any material changes that have been made.

§§ if no changes have been made to accounts for previous periods then delete these words.

Note 3 Analysis of incoming resources

Incoming resources may be further analysed if this would help the reader of the accounts.

Analysis	Unrestricted £	restricted £	This year £	Last year £
Donations from previous years	-		-	
Other donations			-	
Fundraising	2,230		-	1,129
Gift Aid			-	
Total	2,230			1,129
Membership	5,579		-	5,886
Tuition fees	48,103		-	46,032
Other (bank interest)	49		-	49
			-	
Total	53,730			51,967
Sponsorship			-	-
Partnership	429		-	449
			-	
	429		-	
Total			-	449
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Total			-	
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
Total			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
Total			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
Total			-	-



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
Ecole des Copains

On accounts for the year ended

31st July 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1167503

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *Tony McNamara*

Date: 03.10.25

Name: A.McNamara

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

M.A.A.T

Address:

12,BELL ROAD
ENFIELD
MIDDX EN1 3JZ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details
of any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose.